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'Intensive' Iraqi-Israeli Contacts Reported

NC2809092890 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0718 GMT 28 Sep 90

[From the press review]

[Excerpt] Cairo, 28 Sep (MENA)—[passage omitted] AL-AHRAM quoted a British report, issued in London yesterday, revealing intensive contacts held behind the scenes between Iraqi and Israeli officials, in which Saddam pledged not to attack Israel in exchange for Israel's promise not to attack Iraq in case of a war in the Gulf. The foreign report, published by THE ECONOMIST, confirmed that King Husayn of Jordan acted as mediator between Iraq and Israel. The report explained that the contacts between Israel and Iraq were not done on impulse, but date back to the Iraq-Iran war when Iraq purchased Israeli arms, and asked for a pledge not to destroy Iraqi oil pipelines and for a condemnation of Iranian policies. It was discovered yesterday that Tunisian Minister of State for Security Affairs Mohamed al-'Arabi al-Mahjubi [name and title as received] has been involved with a wealthy woman named Lilia who is believed to have been passing intelligence to foreign parties, probably the Mosad, since 1984, the press reported. [passage omitted]

Inter-Arab Affairs

Mubarak Said Trying To Stop Arab Withdrawal

JN2709182390 Amman AKHBAR AL-USBU' in Arabic 27 Sep 90 pp 1, 23

[Text] Official reports have cited reliable Iranian sources as saying that Syria made a commitment to Iran to withdraw its forces from Saudi Arabia if the foreign forces do not withdraw from the Arabian Peninsula and the Gulf. The reports said that Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad made this commitment to Iranian President Hashemi-Rafsanjani on the last day of their talks. Al-Asad said he would not send more troops [to Saudi Arabia] and that his country will monitor the situation. If no convincing American intentions to withdraw the foreign forces appear, Syria will pull out the symbolic forces it has dispatched to Saudi Arabia.

The observers linked this Syrian position with Egyptian President Husni Mubarak's announcement of his surprise and astonishment that some Arab countries have changed their positions on the Gulf crisis in favor of Iraq. The observers added that President Mubarak is trying to convince the Syrians not to pull out their forces. Mubarak will also dispatch his foreign minister to Morocco, Djibouti, and Somalia to prevent them from adopting a new policy on the Gulf crisis.

In another development, the Moroccan Government announced that it will withdraw its forces from the Gulf because the Moroccan monarch does not believe in the need for their presence there. Hence, Mubarak decided to act to prevent Morocco from taking such a step. Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad received a message from King Fahd Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz on 25 September, a few hours after his return from Tehran. Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal conveyed the message, which is directly related to the new Syrian position on the Gulf crisis.

Saddam Reportedly Receives Arab Memo on Solution

JN2709132690 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1200 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Text] French President Francois Mitterrand asked Iraqi President Saddam Husayn to declare his readiness to withdraw Iraqi Forces from Kuwait when he presented his plan for settling the Gulf crisis to the UN General Assembly. This declaration is required from the Iraqi president even before any negotiations on the settlement are embarked upon. This request came in the form of a written memorandum addressed to Iraqi President Saddam Husayn by the leaders of Jordan, Morocco, and Algeria when they recently met in Rabat to seek an Arab solution to the crisis. An Arab diplomatic source in Amman confirmed today that the memorandum has reached the Iraqi president and that the three leaders—King Husayn, King Hassan II, and Algerian President Chadli Benjedid—are waiting for the Iraqi president's reply to their memorandum at the end of this week. If the reply is positive, it will be possible to form a committee of experts from among Arab leaders to draft a formula for an Arab solution that will enjoy international support to end the Gulf crisis.

In any case, it seems that—so far—Baghdad has given no sign of such a declaration of intent. Iraqi President Saddam Husayn has said many times that Kuwait is Iraqi land. Two days ago he said that Iraq will fight 1,000 years for this cause.

Arab League Council Meeting Opens in Tunis

JN2809093290 Manama WAKH in English 1538 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Text] Tunis, Sept 27 (GNA) [GULF NEWS AGENCY]—The Arab League Council opened its 94th ordinary session here today during which the State of Qatar took over the chairmanship from Palestine in accordance with Arab League procedures.

The meeting, which was attended by representatives from all the member states, was later adjourned and the session was suspended pending a decision by the foreign ministers to resume meetings at an appropriate venue and date.

Qatar's ambassador to Cairo, HE [His Excellency] Badir 'Umar al-Dafa' who headed his country's delegation, addressed the opening meeting, stressing that the honour of assuming the chairmanship was attached with a tremendous historical responsibility due to the dangerous turning point facing the Arab nation.

"You are aware of the risks and challenges of this turning point. The Arab nation has never faced anything like the prevalent division, differences in opinion, aggression and bloodshed in a crisis in which one no longer trusted one's own brother," the Qatari ambassador said.

The Qatari ambassador urged for support of the Arab League and commitment to its resolutions , stressing that the Arab causes required full solidarity and enlightened action.

"We are looking forward to the role of the Arab League to overcome the current painful crisis, evade dangers and enhance joint Arab action," al-Dafa' said.

The meeting which lasted for 60 minutes was also addressed by the outgoing chairman, Hakam Bal'awi who wished the incumbent chairman success and expressed hope that the current session would see Arab solidarity reestablished.

The meeting was addressed as well by acting secretary-general, As'ad al-As'ad who paid tribute to the former secretary-general, Chedli Klibi for his efforts in favour of Arab joint action. Klibi resigned his post earlier this month.

In the course of the meeting, the Iraqi representative, Hamid al-Juburi protested the presence of the Kuwaiti delegation. The permanent Kuwaiti representative, 'Abd-al-Muhsin al-Jay'an replied by noting that it was Iraq and not Kuwait that divided the Arab League and undermined pan Arab security.

"Iraq recognised Kuwait's sovereignty and international borders in accordance with a protocol agreed upon in Baghdad on Oct. 4, 1963 but if Iraq wants to relinquish its international responsibilities, the position of the international community in this regard has been made unequivocally clear as demonstrated in the Security Council, the Arab League Council and the emergency Arab summit resolutions," the Kuwaiti representative said.

The chairman of the session intervened , reminding the representatives of their agreement to refrain from raising any issue after which the meeting resumed its deliberations.

Palestinian Affairs

Soviet Position on Gulf, Palestine Condemned

JN2709133190 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1200 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Text] The PLO has condemned the recent Soviet position on the Gulf crisis and the Palestine question. 'Abdallah Hurani, member of the PLO Executive Committee, said in a statement in Tunis that it is no longer possible to consider the USSR a friend or ally of the world's liberation forces, including the liberation forces in the Arab world. He added that this position can only be explained as an attempt by Moscow to satisfy the Zionist movement and attract U.S. capital, he said. He added that it is very difficult for the PLO to accept such a position from the USSR.

'Arafat Message to Arab Conference in Argentina

JN2709202190 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1600 GMT 26 Sep 90

[Excerpts] Brother Abu-'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], president of the state of Palestine and chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, has addressed a message to the ninth conference of the Federation of Arab Establishments in the Two Americas, which was held in the Argentine capital, Buenos Aires, from 20-23 September. Following is the text of the speech.

Brother chairman of the conference, brother and sister members of the conference, ladies and gentlemen, esteemed guests: Revolutionary greetings. On the occasion of convening the ninth conference of the Federation of Arab Establishments in the Two Americas; on behalf of our struggling Palestinian Arab people; in the name of my brothers, members of the PLO Executive Committee; and in my name, I greet you with the best brotherly greetings and sincerely wish you success in your esteemed conference to achieve your noble objectives. I express my deep thanks for your generous invitation to me to attend this conference. I would like also to express to you our great appreciation of the support and backing of your Federation for our just Palestinian cause and the struggle of our people and their blessed intifadah to liberate our occupied Palestinian territory, and for our people to restore and exercise their inalienable national rights, including their right to repatriation and self-determination and the establishment of their independent state on the soil of their homeland.

Brothers: The ninth conference of your Federation is being held in one of the most critical eras of the contemporary history of our Arab nation. For our Palestinian people have been continuing their just and legitimate struggle for more than half a century against Israeli occupation, which denies them their inalienable national rights. The blessed Palestinian intifadah was a natural crowning of this struggle. The intifadah has continued for one thousand days with the same determination and resolve and will of freedom despite the stepped-up campaigns of organized official repression and terrorism, which are carried out in line with Israel's strong-arm and bone-breaking policy. [passage omitted]

Following the inception of the Gulf crisis, our Arab region, on the other hand, has been subjected to a crusader campaign led by the United States. This campaign is manifested in the massing of armies and warships and the most modern weapons of mass destruction, and in the starving of the Iraqi people through an embargo imposed by force of arms. The United States is, at the same time, intentionally and persistently obstructing all Arab and international efforts and initiatives aimed at reaching a peaceful negotiated solution to this crisis.

For our part we have acted since the inception of the crisis to prevent the outbreak of war and to find a peaceful, negotiated settlement within the Arab family that would safeguard everyone's dignity and rights. Thus, we have put forward our peace initiative based on the principle of successive withdrawals to settle all Mideast problems, the origin origin and linchpin of which is the Palestine question and the Arab-Israeli dispute. Fraternal Iraq has accepted this suggestion in principle. Our initiative is also based on the principle of the evacuation of all foreign forces from the region and replacing them with international forces under the banner of the United Nations, and under its auspices. It is also based on the principle of terminating the embargo and blockade imposed on Iraq, and applying them to any occupying country that refuses to withdraw from the territories it is occupying.

The United States is using the Security Council and the United Nations as a means to impose its control, ambitions, and colonialist interests, primarily in order to continue to pillage the wealth of our nation and to impose a state of division in the Arab arena. By this behavior, the United States reveals its double standards and its selectivity in dealing with the principles of international law and the resolutions of the United Nations. For, as you know, the United States was the one that put all its weight as a superpower into obstructing the implementation of United Nations and Security Council resolutions—such as Resolution 242, which calls for the withdrawal of the Israeli authorities from the occupied Arab territories, based on the principle of inadmissibility of seizing territories by force. The United States was also the party that put all its weight behind hindering all international efforts for an international peace conference in the Middle East under the auspices and within the context of the United Nations, and in accordance with its resolutions approving our people's inalienable right to self-determination. The United States, moreover, was the one that used the veto seven times in one year to protect Israel and cover up for its crimes against our people. The United States is asked today, more than ever to seek, with the same seriousness and resolve that it is showing in applying UN resolutions in the Gulf crisis, the implementation of UN resolutions on the Palestine question and the Arab-Israeli dispute. This is because international legitimacy is an indivisible whole and because the Security Council permanent members, who are now in a new international situation manifested by detente, are really capable of achieving the same thing concerning other UN and General Assembly resolutions relating to the Palestine question.

In light of the worsening situation in our region as a result of the U.S. military buildup and the beating of war drums on the part of the United States and its allies, the Israeli Government has capitalized on the international preoccupation with the Gulf crisis to step up its campaigns of repression, terrorism, and oppression against our Palestinian people, who are waging legitimate resistance against foreign occupation. This resistance is approved by all UN charters and resolutions, in the same way these charters approve our people's inalienable rights, including their right to repatriation and to the establishment of their independent Palestinian state.

Senior PLO Official Urges Settling All Issues

JN2709104290 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 27-28 Sep 90 pp 1, 2

[Report by Lamis Andoni and Saha Qara'in]

[Text] Amman—The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), relying on its links with the Soviet Union, is pressing for a United Nations Security Council meeting to discuss all problems in the Middle East, according to a senior Palestinian official.

PLO Executive Committee member Yasir 'Abd Rabbuh told reporters in Amman Wednesday [26 September] that the PLO had made a specific proposal to the Soviet Union suggesting that the Security Council discusses all the unresolved crisis plaguing the region.

"The Soviet officials were not opposed to the principle of such discussion on the basis that all of these crises are connected," said 'Abd Rabbuh, who has returned from Moscow.

"Our specific proposal that we presented to the Soviet officials was for the Security Council to undertake a comprehensive discussion of the Middle East in order to reach a formula or a solution to all problems in the region, including the Gulf crisis, the Palestinian problem, Israeli's occupation of the Golan Heights and the situation in South Lebanon," 'Abd Rabbuh said.

The proposal is part of Arab efforts to find a mechanism affirming the link between a solution to the Gulf crisis and a settlement to Arab-Israeli conflict, Palestinian officials said.

Although the PLO did not appear to have secured specific commitments from Moscow, 'Abd Rabbuh was encouraged by a Soviet stress of a linkage among all problems in the region, Moscow's expressions of support for an Arab solution and assurances that they will not take part in any military offensive in the Gulf.

"Soviet officials assured us that (Moscow) will not take part in any military action and will give a chance to peace efforts," he said.

'Abd Rabbuh, who said that the PLO delegation to Moscow forcefully raised the issue of Soviet-Jewish immigration, cautioned against international apathy towards the issue.

"The dust of the Gulf crisis should not provide a cover for the continuous mass influx of Soviet Jews (to Israel)," he said.

Stressing that the PLO was still advocating a halt to Soviet Jewish immigration, 'Abd Rabbuh implied that there was no progress in Palestinian attempts to make Soviet policy-makers adopt measures that will end the current situation whereby Israel is almost the exclusive destination for all Soviet Jewish emigres.

The PLO has in the past pressed for a modification in Soviet law which could allow Soviet immigrants, Jews and non-Jews alike, to retain their Soviet passports so that they could return to their original country if they wanted or to choose a destination other than Israel. Currently Soviet Jews are granted a special document which only allows them to go to Israel.

"This situation has prompted some non-Jewish Soviets to forge documents proving that they are of Jewish origin to benefit from these privilleges," ‘Abd Rabbuh said.

‘Abd Rabbuh indicated that some Arab countries were not being taking part in the Arab effort to press for a Soviet shift in Moscow's policy towards Soviet Jewish emigration.

"We were told by Soviet political personalities who expressed surprise that some of the Arab officials (who visited Moscow) did not raise the question of Soviet Jewish emigration," he said."

Soviet Foreign Ministry officials told the visiting PLO delegation that Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev discussed the link between the Gulf crisis and the Palestinian problem in his talks with U.S. President George Bush in Helsinki earlier this month.

But, ‘Abd Rabbuh quoted Soviet officials as saying that the American side confined itself to a "vague position" stressing need to solve the Gulf crisis first and then address other conflicts in the region.

‘Abd Rabbuh, who headed the now-suspended U.S.-PLO dialogue, said that the PLO believes that Washington has two objecties in the Gulf.

—To assert its military presence and assume control of the Gulf for a long time to come; and

—To destroy Iraq's military power.

"Destruction of Iraq's military power is the translation of Washington's concept of security arrangements in the Gulf following an Iraqi withdrawal from Kuwait," he said.

The PLO official said the American-proposed security arrangements in the Gulf aim at reducing the size and power of the Iraqi army, defining Iraq's military capabilities and the arms it should possess and the imposition of other exceptional constraints on Baghdad.

"Such an arrangements will constitute a strategic threat not only to the interests of the people of the region but will also offset the international balance, and international economic relations," he said.

The PLO official said other countries and economic powers are already alarmed by prospects of an American control of the oil fields and the manipulation of oil production and prices.

‘Abd Rabbuh said the PLO had sensed—in Moscow and from contacts with other European capitals—that there was an increasing awareness that the American real objective was not the implementation of the United Nations resolutions but to control the oil fields and destroy Iraq.

"There is a widening realisation that the real American plan is not the implementation of United Nations and it has nothing to do with the apparent intentions declared by Washington," he said.

‘Abd Rabbuh said that recent proposals by French President Francois Mitterrand contained "positive and important indications" that France was eager to give a chance to a political solution of the Gulf crisis.

"(Mitterrand's speech) indicated that France and the majority of other European countries are giving preference to diplomacy," he said.

The PLO official said the organisation, which maintains continuous consultations with Paris, encourages a French role which will "create a balanced approach and a comprehensive treatement of the situation in the Middle East."

‘Abd Rabbuh lashed out at recent increasing criticism of both Jordan and Palestinians by Arab governments which support the Western military build up in the Gulf.

"The campaign against Jordan and the Palestinans is not a sign of strength," he said.

Gulf states, Egyptian officials and press have scathingly attacked the Jordanian and PLO positions on the Gulf crisis. Some Gulf and Egyptian newspapers even implied that Jordanians, Palestinians and Yemenis were responsible for the Gulf crisis by maintaining close relations with Iraq.

"Attempts to hold Jordanians, Palestinans and Yemenis responsible for the crisis is a source of astonishment to us and this is the least we could say," ‘Abd Rabbuh said. "Those who are launching campaigns against Jordan and the PLO are responsible for the continuation of the crisis and blocking efforts by inviting the invading American forces and increasing their subservience (to foreign powers)," he said.

"Our policy, and so is the Jordanian policy, is the only option that guarantees and safeguards the interests of the people of the area and aims at protecting the region, from a long-term foreign domination and violation," he said.

The PLO official condemned recent harassments and deportations of Palestinans by some Gulf states. He warned that deportations of Palestinans might have grave repercussions on inter-Arab relations.

"The door is still left open for a solution within an Arab context. Therefore, any infringement on the rights of the Palestinan communities will have long-term repercussions," he cautioned.

Qatar has reportedly expelled more than 200 Palestinans while senior Gulf officials have threatened to deport all Palestinians from the Gulf states.

'Abd Rabbuh charged that the Gulf states' measures were inspired by the U.S.

"American pressures are not far from deportations and expulsions (of Palestinans) by one Gulf state," 'Abd Rabbuh said.

In a public lecture in Amman last month 'Abd Rabbuh said that the PLO will not succumb "to such blackmail," in a direct reference to deportations from Qatar.

Hawatimah Praises Saddam's 12 Aug Initiative

JN2809102090 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1610 GMT 25 Sep 90

[Text] Baghdad, 25 Sep (INA)—The secretary-general and members of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine [DFLP] have described their meeting with President Saddam Husayn as a meeting to realize victory against the American and Zionist invaders, who are paid off by the traitors among the Arab nation.

In statements to INA, they said they appreciated President Saddam Husayn's 12 August initiative and stated that it sought to link decisively and contemporaneously all the crises of the region, especially the Palestine question which forms the pivot of struggle in the Arab-Zionist conflict.

DFLP Secretary-General Nayif Hawatimah described President Saddam Husayn's initiative as an exceptional opportunity for a comprehensive and balanced peace from occupied Jerusalem to the Gulf in accordance with international legitimacy which Washington and Tel Aviv have been hampering for over 23 years.

Nayif Hawatimah declared that the initiative exposed the phony and hypocritical U.S. policy because it placed this policy in a tight corner in front of the rest of the world when Washington continued its support for the Zionist enemy, halted the implementation of the resolutions of international legitimacy, and continued its occupation, aggression, and dispersion of the sons of the Arab nation in Palestine.

He said that the attempt at separating the Gulf crisis from the central cause of the Arabs, the question of Palestine, is to be rejected. If it is imperative to find a special solution to the Gulf crisis, then it should be within an Arab framework since it is an internal Arab issue, and the invading Arab forces should withdraw from the holy Islamic territories in Najd and Hejaz [Saudi Arabia] and the Arabian Gulf region. He pointed out that any U.S. rejection could lead to negative results.

Mr. Hawatimah stressed that the aim of the deployment of the Atlantic and American troops in the Middle East and Arabian Gulf region from thousands of miles away is war and aggression, as well as a strike against Iraq's economic, military, and technological development and imposition of conditions of capitulation on the Arabian Gulf and Middle East region. The target is also to liquidate the Palestine question under the guise of defending their paid agents on the basis of the Baker-Mubarak-Shamir plan deriving from the Camp David agreements.

He said: We felt the presence of this conspiracy throughout the 20 months of Palestinian-U.S. dialogue.

The DFLP secretary-general stated that he found Leader President Saddam Husayn to be determined and persistent in realizing a final and certain victory and defeating the invading forces.

He said: When the invading foreign forces prepare themselves for aggression, we have to prepare ourselves, from the position of a united pan-Arab and national trench, to thwart the aggression and liberate holy Jerusalem, just as we seek with great effort to purify the occupied lands in Najd and Hejaz from the spears of U.S. invasion.

He added that the Arab nation stands now before a fork in the road: Either it gains victory over its enemies, who wish to repeat the black June 1967 setback by striking Iraq, the fortress and towering castle of Arabism, wisely led by President Saddam Husayn; or it fights until surrender is imposed upon it.

He said: We want the age of Arab splendor to return, which is what happened during the conniving tripartite aggression in 1956 on the Egypt of Arabism; we want this splendor to prosper and become the beginning of the end of the new American empire in the Arabian Gulf region and the Middle East; we want to put a real end to Zionist expansionism to secure a balanced and comprehensive peace based on guaranteeing the rights of the Palestinian people to repatriation, self-determination, and setting up their independent state, as well as the Arab nation's right to live a free and dignified life among nations and peoples.

Envoy to Jordan Discusses Future PLO Steps

JN2809104490 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 26 Sep 90 pp 18, 14

[Report by Tawfiq 'Abid]

[Text] Al-Tayyib 'Abd-al-Rahim, ambassador of the state of Palestine [in Amman], has said in an exclusive interview with AL-DUSTUR that the Palestinian leadership, consisting of the PLO Executive Committee, the secretary-generals of the factions, and members of the Fatah Central Council, will hold a series of meetings in Tunis at the beginning of next month to present a new initiative that links the solutions to the Gulf crisis and the Palestine question, proceeding from the fact that international legitimacy is an indivisible whole and stemming from the initiative declared by President Saddam Husayn on 12 August.

He added: Pan-Arab requirements dictate the formulation of an Arab solution to the crisis as a clear and specific Arab initiative that could be presented to Arab countries that reject the foreign presence in the Arabian Gulf states and have questions about the nature of the Arab solution.

As part of his response to a question from AL-DUSTUR, he added that serious and coordinated diplomatic efforts must be made so that countries with some weight, such as the Soviet Union, China, and France, will adopt the Arab initiative on an international level, leading to a retraction of the resolution issued by the United States which it has begun to impose mechanically on the international community against Iraq and the PLO.

He went on to say that talk about linking the Gulf crisis and the Palestine question still takes place in general terms and has not yet been turned into practical and tangible measures. He noted that an expanded international conference was held recently to find a solution to the Cambodian problem. Participation in this conference was not restricted to the parties to the conflict only. This was meant to prevent the United States from making isolated decisions and stop the U.S. Administration's attempts to control the resolution.

The ambassador of the state of Palestine said he believed that present developments provide an opportunity to realize the national rights of the Palestinian people that may not be repeated. He said that President Saddam Husayn's initiative to link the two causes—the Gulf and Palestine causes—has provided the appropriate atmosphere for the establishment of the independent State of Palestine, with Jerusalem as its capital. He said that all those who oppose linking the two causes, solving the Palestine question, and the achievement by fraternal Iraq of a position of power and strategic balance, want to continue bartering with the cause for the sake of their regional interests.

He said that at a time when we are talking about an Arab solution linking the Palestine and Gulf causes, the Arab popular forces must prepare themselves to confront U.S. interests in the Arab region, proceeding from the knowledge that the U.S. Administration might resort to blocking the way to the Arab solution by ignite the situation to impose a new state of affairs on the region.

He went on to say that what is required of us as Palestinians is to present ideas that will earn Arab and international support to implement an international legitimacy that cannot be divided. He pointed out that the Palestinian leadership will call a meeting of the PLO Central Council, the link between the Palestine National Council and the PLO Executive Committee, to formulate practical ideas to bring the two causes together.

Mr. al-Tayyib 'Abd-al-Rahim went on to say that if the initiative to link the Gulf and Middle East crises meets with acceptance by the majority of Arabs, the coming summit will adopt the initiative to propose it to the world and to gather international support for it. He said that in this way, we would be realizing success against U.S. hegemony on Arab and international decisions. He stressed the importance of effective and intense coordination among Arab countries that reject the U.S. presence in the Gulf region to come up with an Arab initiative and start the machinery in motion for an Arab solution.

He said that at a time when we are talking about the machinery for an Arab solution, we must maintain popular zeal on an upward course against the possibility of an American aggression on fraternal Iraq.

He concluded his statement by saying that the Palestinian leadership has set out appropriate plans to develop the blessed intifadah and escalate the struggle against the occupation should aggression take place. It is expected that Israel will play a role in a future stage of the expected Atlantic and U.S. aggression in order to benefit in terms of realizing its expansionist designs and empty the occupied land of the Palestinian demographic bomb.

Arab Liberation Front Statement Supports Iraq

JN2709120690 Baghdad INA in English 1040 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Text] Baghdad, Sep 27, INA—The Arab Liberation Front has affirmed that Iraq's battle is the Arab and Moslems' battle for defending values of righteousness, sanctities, existence and the humanity.

In a statement issued today in conclusion of a chain of meetings held to discuss developments of the situation in the region it was said that the campaign of antagonism against Iraq was an expression of rancour of the hostile forces and their concern versus the new Iraqi case .

The statement added that deployment of the invading troops and amassing of fleets of aggression on Iraq and the escalation of economic blockade measures being imposed on it had unveiled dimensions of the American-Zionist conspiracy and role of cheap tools like traitor rulers Husni [Mubarak] and Fahd in implementing it which aims at Iraq's capability and firm principled stands of President Saddam Husayn in restoring rights of the Arab nation.

The statement lauded the attitude of glory of the Arab and Islamic masses who hastened to counter the invaders declaring their readiness to defend the Arab and Islamic sanctities.

Algeria

Ben Bella Holds Press Conference on Arrival

LD2709145690 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 27 Sep 90

[Excerpt] [Announcer] The former Algerian president, Ahmed Ben Bella, returned to Algeria this morning via Algiers harbor, and several citizens were there to welcome him. Let us now listen together to the report by Ahmed Fida, at Algiers harbor.

[Fida] At 0945 the ship The Hoggar, carrying Mr. Ahmed Ben Bella, the first president of independent Algeria, docked at the quay. Ahmed Ben Bella, who is returning to the homeland after an absence in exile which lasted ten years, found thousands of citizens welcoming him at the harbor. According to members of the organizing body of the Movement for Democracy in Algeria [MDA], Ben Bella was accompanied by several Arab and foreign personalities, among whom was the son of 'Umar al-Mukhtar, the Libyan combatant; and Otelo, the leader of the opposition in Portugal; in addition to several parliamentarians from Western states.

As far as organization is concerned, it is worth mentioning that it was very bad. The national press in particular encountered great obstacles and difficulties in entering the VIP lounge, and some journalists were subjected to beatings and insults.

Immediately after he left the ship, Mr. Ahmed Ben Bella chaired a popular rally at which he delivered a speech. He welcomed those who greeted him on arrival, then he reviewed the most important points contained in his party's [MDA] action program. As far as this program is concerned, Mr. Ben Bella stressed the need to review all the policies on agriculture, industry, the education system, and scientific research. He also covered in his speech the international situation, particularly what is taking place in the Gulf, and said:

[Begin Ben Bella recording] For the first time in our history, we have...what have we got? We have missiles and chemical bombs. Israel has hundreds of nuclear bombs. They tell you you have chemical missiles which we must take away. What about the hundreds of Israeli bombs? Why do you take only ours? This reminds me of the revolution era; we were then making bombs. [sentence as heard] [end recording]

After this, Mr. Ben Bella held a small press conference in which he said, in particular:

[Begin recording] [Ben Bella in French] We must achieve a consensus; we must safeguard the unity of the country, and a great consensus for the democratic game. We must therefore hold elections for the National Assembly, and we must always go toward more democracy, more victory of democracy, and more acquisitions in order to consolidate what we have already gained. There is great freedom of speech in Algeria. We have gained this thanks to the people, not thanks to the regime. One must say that there is great freedom of speech, even in the official press. We must therefore consolidate this.

[Unidentified reporter] [Words indistinct] the problems of the Middle East?

[Ben Bella] Yes, the problems of the Middle East are very complicated. I personally think that they are approached in a way which is a bit too easy. I think that one (?pact), not two, must be set up. War must be avoided. There must not be a war. This war will not be easy; it will leave horrible marks in the region. One must go toward a political solution. [end recording] [passage omitted]

Commentary on Reaction to Ben Bella's Return

LD2709190190 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Commentary by Mohamed Amine Mouaki]

[Excerpts] Every stage has one or many characteristics which define the landmarks of that stage. One of the characteristics of Algeria's recent history is that it was the people who made the events and the victory. How numerous were the challenges which were imposed on Algeria! We always came out victorious, however, despite the sacrifices and sufferings; and going through the stages of history and the progress of civilization is not an easy matter.

The popular characteristic of the Algerian challenge does not negate at all the role of persons and leaders; whenever these adopt what is called for and defended by the national arena the picture of cohesion is completed and the steps are faster.

The return of former President Ahmed Ben Bella has led to many reactions. Some of these are emotional and coupled with previous events in the life of the country, while others are based on personal stances and grudges which have personal motives. The realistic view, in our belief, is the one which raises itself above such a concept, whether the matter concerns former President Ahmed Ben Bella or anybody else, in order to see matters objectively and state the right and duties of persons. This means that we cannot, however hard we try, deviate from the course of history or remain silent about its achievements or its mistakes. [passage omitted]

The present political language must obey the circumstances of the present stage, with all that this means, such as abandoning prejudgements or some disputes which have become things of the past after ensuing events showed the real nature of a dispute and the aims hiding behind it. On this basis, what is required by the citizen is a comprehensive social project with its political, economic, social, and cultural dimensions. Thus the noticeable thing since the adoption of the multiparty system is the occurrence of some forms of expressions dominated by a partial nature or an individualistic aspect, to a point where it sometimes seems to us that there is a lack of a comprehensive national concept which satisfies the majority of citizens.

Here we are just a few months away from parliamentary elections, and the national arena is still looking for a program which unleashes its potential and at least lessens its crisis. Thus, let the enrichment of the political arena be an enrichment for the homeland and a factor of unity and cooperation; this is not impossible for our people.

Egypt

Iraqi With Kuwaiti Passport Arrested in Cairo

LD2709101990 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1004 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Text] Cairo, 27 Sep (SPA)—Egyptian security authorities have arrested an Iraqi terrorist carrying a forged Kuwaiti passport. In its edition of today, the Egyptian newspaper AL-AKHBAR quoted police sources as saying the Iraqi terrorist was testing security measures at Cairo airport, which have been tightened. It added: After the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait, Egypt has obtained the numbers of Kuwaiti passports seized by Iraq for use in terrorism. It pointed out that elements working for Iraq are to receive these passports.

Precautions Against Iraqi-Backed Terror Increased

PM2709154790 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 25 Sep 90 p 1

[Unattributed report: "Authoritative Egyptian Source Tells AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT: "Iraq Planning Terrorist Operations and Training Groups To Carry Them Out"]

[Text] Cairo, AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT Bureau—The Egyptian security authorities and organs have decided to take strict security measures at all points of entry into Egypt, both at Nuwaybi' port and Cairo International Airport, in anticipation of any attempt by terrorist organization elements to infiltrate Egyptians returning from Iraq and Kuwait with a view to carrying out terrorist operations against Egypt or against the interests and nationals of foreign states in it.

An authoritative official has said that the Egyptian decision concerning the need for Iraqis wishing to enter Egypt to obtain an entry visa in advance from Egyptian embassies abroad is one of the Egyptian steps to ensure Egypt's security and the interests of foreign states and their nationals on its territory. Especially as the Iraqi media services have continued to launch threats against Egypt and incite terrorist organization elements to launch terrorist operations.

The source pointed out that there is an Iraqi scheme to launch organized terrorist operations in a number of Arab and European capitals. And the groups which will take part in implementing that scheme are currently being trained in special camps in Iraq.

AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT has also learned that the United States has decided to take strict security measures to protect its embassies, diplomatic missions, and nationals in Middle East states in anticipation of terrorist operations by some anti-U.S. terrorist organizations allied with Iraq.

Informed sources in Cairo have said that the U.S. Administration has told some of the Arab states supporting Saddam Husayn that it will hold them fully responsible if U.S. diplomats and national are exposed to any terrorist operations, especially as the information available to it indicates that these organizations are planning to carry out operations in these states in view of the possibility of their obtaining facilities and in view of the lack of strong security restrictions against their members.

Seventy-two Iraqi Embassy Employees Leave Cairo

NC2709143590 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1320 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Text] Cairo, 27 Sep (MENA)—A total of 72 Iraqis, including 10 people who work in the cultural and military attache offices, left Cairo this morning.

During the departure formalities, it was noticed that they were carrying large quantities of foodstuffs, more than the usual free baggage allowance.

Mubarak Says 14,000 Soldiers in Saudi Arabia

NC2709144690 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1155 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Text] Kibrit, 27 Sept (MENA)—President Muhammad Husni Mubarak met today with the personnel of the 3d Mechanized Infantry Division of the Egyptian Armed Forces on board a vessel here. During the meeting, President Mubarak spoke frankly on the developments in the Gulf region and Egypt's position toward these developments.

Asked about the number of Egyptian troops in Saudi Arabia, President Mubarak said: There are 14,000 Egyptian fighters in Saudi Arabia, but I cannot give a final figure because it is changing according to circumstances.

Regarding the telephone call to his excellency from Lieutenant General 'Umar al-Bashir, chairman of the Command Council of the Sudanese National Salvation Revolution, and whether the conversation touched on a military operation [not further specified], the president said there is no talk of a military operation. He telephoned me, and this was announced at the time, President Mubarak added.

In response to another question on whether either country is backing down, Mubarak said: I do not discuss such matters on the telephone.

In response to another question on Kuwait's inability to repulse the Iraqi aggression, President Mubarak said: Kuwait did not have the capability to confront this massive Iraqi aggression.

Asked about reports on the meeting of the U.S. Congress' Appropriations Committee [to discuss waiver of Egyptian military debts to the United States—House or Senate committee not specified], President Mubarak said: The committee postponed the discussion of the issue, but the process is still continuing.

The president added: We know that elections are coming up and every representative is afraid, but the U.S. Administration and the Senate are working on the issue, and we hope the issue will be resolved.

Staff Major General Yahya Muhammad 'Ulwan, commander of the 3d Mechanized Infantry Division which today will head for the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia by sea to take part in defending the holy places, spoke during the meeting. He emphasized the Armed Forces' confidence in President Mubarak's leadership and their full backing of the president's wise policies. He pointed out that the members of his division are prepared to exert all efforts to achieve their tasks efficiently and with determination to succeed everywhere under all circumstances.

Maj. Gen. 'Ulwan added: Here and now, we pledge God and your excellency that we will spare no effort in raising the banners of the Armed Forces high to fulfill the aspirations of the noble Egyptian people and our beloved Arab nation.

Upon boarding the vessel that will ferry the 3d Mechanized Infantry Division to Saudi Arabia, President Mubarak was received by General Yusuf Sabri Abu-Talib, minister of defense and war production; Lt. Gen. Safiy-al-Din Abu-Shinaf, chief of staff of the Armed Forces; the commanders of the main branches of the Egyptian Armed Forces; the commander of the northern zone; the commanders of the 2d and 3d Field Armies; and Maj. Gen. 'Ulwan, commander of the 3d Mechanized Infantry Division.

Following the meeting, President Mubarak boarded the launch that took him back to Kibrit air base. Aboard the launch, Mubarak waved to the valiant Egyptian soldiers and wished them continued good luck and success in their national and pan-Arab mission.

Addresses 3d Mechanized Division

NC2709181590 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1600 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Text] Kibrit, 27 Sep (MENA)—President Husni Mubarak has stressed that the Egyptian Armed Forces are the shield of Egypt and the Arab homeland. He praised the efficacy and capability of these forces both in terms of know-how and training. He said that the Egyptian Armed Forces have waged their battles with honor and dignity. They have also played their role in all the stages of history without committing folly or debauchery. This is a source of pride for every officer and soldier in our Armed Forces.

This came in a speech by President Mubarak during his meeting today with the personnel of the Egyptian Armed Forces' 3d Mechanized Infantry Division.

President Mubarak said: Soldiers and officers of the 3d Division. I believe I have met some of you in the Alexandria area. It is always an honor for me to meet with the men of the Armed Forces, where I grew up, received my education, and gained expertise. This is the status of our Armed Forces:

President Mubarak continued: As I have mentioned on numerous occasions, the Armed Forces are the shield of this country and the whole Arab homeland. Our forces are among the most, if not the most, efficient forces in this area in terms of know-how and training. He added: Our Armed Forces have fought with honor and dignity. They have not debauched the honor [of women] and have not committed any follies or inhuman acts. Suffice it to say, this is a source of pride for our Armed Forces.

President Mubarak said: There was a lot of talk about Arab national security, especially at the Arab summit held in Baghdad in May. To our great regret, this was not a conference to discuss Arab national security, but to prepare the atmosphere for the operation which occurred.

President Mubarak said: No one had thought that an Arab president would occupy and devour another country. What happened was very strange. Since the Iraq-Iran war, or since it ended, an idea about Kuwait, or more than Kuwait, existed. He said: Regardless of what we heard and saw, we did not believe this at all.

President Mubarak noted that there was a lot of talk about wealth and the need to redistribute it, and how they [the Gulf states] have money.

The president said: If we are looking for the poor and the redistribution of wealth, the poverty operation was a camouflage to seize the oil wells. I want to say it frankly; he [Saddam Husayn] ultimately wants to take over the leadership from Egypt. This is completely impossible.

In a reference to Iraqi President Saddam Husayn's declarations on this subject, President Mubarak said: No sane person would contemplate such a thing as the redistribution of wealth.

President Mubarak said: He [Saddam Husayn] is looking for the redistribution of wealth after exhausting all his reserves and accumulating huge debts during an eight-year war. He finishes one war only to enter another one.

Addressing the Iraqi president, President Mubarak said: We helped you in your war with Iran because you said you did not start the war. Now you have left Iran and turned to Kuwait. As I said before, Kuwait was not assisting us, but it is a matter of principle and we are a leading country in the region. Now that we are acting as a state that respects its principles and saying what is right, we are termed traitors and agents, and we are hearing the filthiest language against us and our Armed Forces.

President Mubarak added: During the Arab lawyers' conference in 1988, President Saddam Husayn spoke about the need not to exchange insults. If that was the case, then what is happening now? Abuse is the style of the weak. Do I become a traitor and agent just because I disagree with you? This is the disaster of the Arab world.

President Mubarak added: The operation was not confined to Kuwait's oil only; on its second or third day, there were two brigades heading south and they infiltrated [ikhtaraqu] Kuwait's borders. He wants to control all of the Arab world's oil, and this is impossible. President Mubarak added: The Iraqis are saying that they want a long war. I pity the Iraqi people because modern wars are not long. A long war is one between two equal powers, as was the case between Iraq and Iran. The president added: Iraq had an organized Army and was superior in air power. Iran had a large number of highly capable aircraft. It had between 70 and 80 F-14's, 900 antitank helicopters, and 175 Phantoms, in addition to a great deal of equipment. However, the foreign experts left after the outbreak of the Iranian revolution, and this equipment was not maintained. That is why it was not used. The president added: I tell President Saddam that had the Iranian equipment been maintained, the situation would not have been in Iraq's favor. However, conditions were in Iraq's favor, and Iraq had air superiority and fought for eight years. Now they talk about a long war.

Mubarak added: I did the impossible to save face. At the beginning of the aggression, Iraq wanted us not to condemn the aggression. It is not important what Yemen or Jordan says, but Egypt is a leading heavyweight country in the region, so how could we not condemn an aggression? What about values and principles? The president added: Had Egypt made that mistake our image would have been extremely bad in the world and we would have backed down as some are doing now. I do not want to talk about the cases of backing down, because there are many of them.

President Mubarak referred to a statement, published in today's papers, in which the Saudi ambassador to Washington criticized King Husayn. Mubarak said: King Husayn is a brother with whom I have dealt for a long time, and I do not like hurling insults. He does not either. However, he has a press that often goes beyond the limit of politeness, and we are aware of this press and its tendencies. The president added: The Arab nation has become afflicted by a disease. This disease is that when I do not agree with what you say, you call me a traitor and an agent. Then, when the person using the most abusive language meets the one he has insulted, he embraces him. Today, they [not further specified] want to back down, but they do not know how. The president added: In Europe there are endless differences but they do not indulge in insults, as is the case in the Arab nation.

The president then referred to a report published by a Tunisian paper that Egypt is sending women to entertain the U.S. troops. He added: I regret very much that we have stooped to such a low level. Egypt is a country that strictly observes religion. Shame on an Arab country and Arab press that uses such dirty language. The president added: We are capable of replying strongly, but we do not want to resort to insults and talk about people's honor because this is not Egypt's nature.

President Mubarak said Egypt is a respectable country, rich with values and principles. He added: We are trying to think of a way to work out a solution. The Iraq-Iran war went on for eight years because of the 1975 Algiers agreement. However, Iraq insisted on claiming the Shatt al-'Arab despite the agreement.

The president went on to say that Iraq recognized the Algiers agreement after the war, as if nothing had happened. President Mubarak asked, why should a war rage for eight years? He [Saddam Husayn] canceled the war, reliquished everything, and declared a war against Kuwait.

In his address, President Mubarak said: When they launched the war, I contacted King Husayn and asked him to visit Baghdad to discuss withdrawing the Iraqi forces from Kuwait, reinstating legitimacy, and holding a minisummit. President Mubarak added that two days later, President Saddam Husayn agreed to attend the summit but rejected the other two points. President Mubarak said: The summit was not held. They would not withdraw because the withdrawal would mean the end of the operation and the collapse of the regime.

President Mubarak continued: In a face-saving attempt, I sent their [Iraqi] ambassador with a message to Saddam Husayn on Tuesday morning [date not specified], informing him that the issue was quite serious. I told him that the whole world will stand against you because you have devoured a state. I also told him that the United States had had to pull out of Panama, although Panama is a different issue.

President Mubarak then pointed out that the Iraqi vice president [as received] arrived in Cairo at 0200 on the same day. I told him: We are ready to help. The Iraqi official answered: Brother, your statement has caused us a lot of trouble. I told him: Egypt cannot remain silent because it has principles. Public opinion in Egypt is against the aggression. Kuwait did not help us, but it is a matter of principle. We have many Egyptians working in Kuwait, Iraq, and in every country. You have displaced people, Egyptians and non-Egyptians.

President Mubarak added: But the Iraqi official reiterated his country's refusal to withdraw from Kuwait. I asked him if they had assessed the situation. He said that they had taken everything into account. I told him that the entire world will stand against you. I also told him that I was prepared to kiss his head [Arabic gesture of conciliation] if it would help find a solution and save the people. But the meeting ended at this point.

Concerning Egypt's appeal to the Arab world to seek a way out of the crisis, President Mubarak said: The Arab leaders asked me to find a way out. I called for an Arab summit and addressed a message to the Arab leaders to come promptly to seek a way out of the crisis. The leaders arrived, and I thanked God.

The president added: Taha Yasin Ramadan [Iraqi first deputy prime minister] requested another meeting, so I asked him: Do you intend to withdraw? He answered no. I said: You do not intend to move? He answered no.

The president affirmed that the Iraqi official did not show any flexibility during this meeting and insisted on giving a negative answer. He added that during the summit they began maneuvering to make the meeting fail and to prevent adoption of a resolution so that they could later claim that the Arab world had not made a decision.

The president then referred to some countries' attempts to make the summit fail. He also spoke of the countries which hesitated to vote for the summit resolution. He said this hesitation resulted from the presence of foreign forces and noted that some other countries had special circumstances which he did not want to speak about.

Regarding Sudan's position on the summit resolution, the president said that Sudan might have special circumstances. Mubarak noted, however, that after the coup led by Lieutenant General 'Umar al-Bashir, Mubarak had telephoned President Saddam Husayn and asked him to recognize the new regime in Sudan. The Iraqi president replied that he would consider the matter.

Mubarak added: All the leaders agreed to recognize the new regime in Sudan except Saddam Husayn, who said he would consider it. Mubarak said it was "a process of [Iraq's] twisting Sudan's arm" and now "they are running behind it. They are like people betting on a losing horse."

The president then referred to the Baghdad summit which suspended Egypt's Arab League membership and adopted decisions to ostracize Egypt in the wake of the peace treaty [with Israel]. Mubarak said: They were seeking to subdue Egypt and keep it incapable of action so they could humiliate it. He pointed out that Saddam Husayn made the threats at the Baghdad summit, and exerted pressure on the Gulf countries by telling them "[the international terrorist] Carlos is still around." They were frightened and agreed, except Oman, Sudan, and Somalia, which expressed reservations. It was then agreed, he said, to ostracize Egypt. He noted that such a decision should have been adopted by unanimous vote, according to the Arab League Charter.

President Mubarak then referred to the establishment of the Arab Cooperation Council [ACC] and said: "At the beginning, they said, let us form an Arab army. I answered that Egypt was willing to defend the Arab nation and pan-Arab security, and that there was no need to build an Arab army. I told them such talk would cause trouble and an announcement about the formation of such an army would make some say that its purpose was simply to loot."

Mubarak added: We entered the ACC. They submitted two basic points for discussion: the first dealing with defense, and the second with security. They wanted to have Egypt go to war alongside them and send its Army to assist them if they came under attack, whether they were right or wrong.

The president added: Ten days before the invasion they asked for things which I do not want to reveal. During all the meetings of the ACC prime ministers and foreign ministers, they insisted on raising this issue. I gave instructions to my officials not to discuss this subject and to state that it was an issue to be discussed only by the heads of state.

President Mubarak said that the ACC meetings continued for seven months, and at every meeting they raised these two points and we rejected them. They were the foundation of the council of conspiracy. By God, a council of conspiracy indeed. In the final reckoning, he [Saddam] wants to control the oil resources and be the supreme power. I told him that Egypt is a pioneering country with its culture and civilization.

Referring to Saddam Husayn, President Mubarak said: He wants to have control by using his money. Those who agree with him are paid, and those who disagree are not paid. I challenge him to establish a free press like we have in Egypt. He claims he is a descendant of the prophet, and we are the descendants of common people. It does not matter.

President Mubarak then referred to those who claim that he has committed a grave error by separating himself from the people. He said: I want to tell them that I read the people's mood correctly. I see and understand because I am not sitting in an ivory tower.

At the end of the meeting, President Mubarak said he is happy to meet with the Armed Forces 3d Division, noting that he has the highest respect for it. He declared: It is not me alone, but the hearts of all Egyptian people that are with you as you leave for Saudi Arabia to defend right and assert the true concept of pan-Arab security, not the concept of seizing the wealth of others.

'Abd-al-Majid on Iraqi Decisions on Kuwait

NC2709164090 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1342 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Text] Cairo, 27 Sep (MENA)—Dr. 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, asserted today that Egypt condemns Iraq's decision to annex Kuwait and to deport the staffs of embassies there. He said that Egypt considers Iraq's decisions null, void, and contrary to international resolutions and the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations.

Dr. 'Abd-al-Majid was speaking following a meeting with Sa'id Rif'at, the Egyptian ambassador to Kuwait who returned to Cairo from Baghdad yesterday. 'Abd-al-Majid said that the ambassador submitted a report on his departure from Kuwait.

Dr. 'Abd-al-Majid praised the Egyptian embassy staff's courageous stand during hard circumstances. He said that their conduct was a good example to Egyptian diplomats abroad.

'Abd-al-Majid Receives Kuwaiti Cabinet Minister

NC2809073190 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1450 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Text] Cairo, 27 Sep (MENA)—Dr. 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, conferred today with Dr. 'Abd-al-Rahman al-'Awadi, Kuwaiti minister of state for cabinet affairs. The meeting was attended by Kuwaiti Ambassador in Cairo 'Abd-al-Razzaq al-Kandari.

Dr. al-'Awadi said that views were exchanged on the Kuwaiti problem in the light of international moves and within the framework of full coordination between Egypt and Kuwait. He stressed that the two countries' viewpoints are identical on this subject. He expressed the belief that the economic blockade of Iraq will succeed, pointing out that the Kuwaiti issue has won international support.

Dr. al-'Awadi said: As the Soviet foreign minister has declared, Iraq can take this opportunity and abandon its ambitions because neither the United Nations nor the whole world will accept the continued Iraqi occupation of Kuwait. The only solution is for Iraq to withdraw by peaceful means, if possible. If this is not possible, then all means will be used to oust Iraq from Kuwait.

Mubarak Receives Thanks From King Fahd

NC2709185990 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1132 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Text] Cairo, 27 Sep (MENA)—President Muhammad Husni Mubarak has received the following cable of thanks from the custodian of the two holy mosques, King Fahd Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz of Saudi Arabia:

His Excellency brother Muhammad Husni Mubarak, president of the Arab Republic of Egypt.

I have received your excellency's cable on the national day anniversary of your other country, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. It pleases me to convey to your excellency sincere thanks, great gratitude, and appreciation for the fraternal and sincere feelings which the cable expressed. It also pleases me to reaffirm my pride in the relations that exist between our two fraternal countries and peoples—relations which have become stronger and firmer with the unfolding of events, particularly in these circumstances in which we stand in one line against the forces of evil and aggression. I implore God to give you good health and to help you complete the march in leading the dear Egyptian people and achieving for them dignity, prosperity, and progress. May God grant us all success so that we may serve our Arab and Islamic nation. May God preserve and safeguard you.

Butrus Ghali Departs for UN Assembly Session

NC2709192890 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1058 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Excerpt] Cairo, 27 Sep (MENA)—Dr. Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, left Cairo today for New York to chair the Egyptian delegation to the meetings of the UN General Assembly's current session. [passage omitted]

Paper Says Iraq Plays on U.S. 'Contradictions'

JN2709204390 Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 25 Sep 90 p 7

[Editorial: "The Playing on Contradictions"]

[Text] Saudi Arabia has affirmed that it will request a withdrawal of foreign troops after the end of the crisis. Similarly, the United States reiterated that it would comply with whatever Saudi Arabia wants in this regard. This means that the United States admits that its massive presence is temporary.

U.S. statements in this regard, especially those made by President Bush and his Secretary of Defense Richard Cheney, seem to have been meant to remedy the unrestrained U.S. conduct represented by the statements made by some U.S. officials, primarily Secretary of State James Baker, on the need for the creation of collective security arrangements for the region involving Israel, once the crisis is resolved. Other U.S. sources hastened to say that the U.S. presence will remain even after the resolution of the crisis in order to prevent a recurrence of the problem. Other statements were made on the continued presence of ground troops within the framework of the aforementioned security arrangements. Iraq seems to have exploited this issue in its propaganda campaigns to show that foreign presence is the archenemy.

Then came the story of the chief of staff of the U.S. Air Force, who was viewed as a man who went beyond his prerogatives when he unveiled details of air strikes targeting specific locations, including Saddam's headquarters. These revelations helped the Iraqi president inflame the sentiments of the people anew and put the U.S. leadership in a very embarrassing position.

Thanks to these U.S. political and military mistakes, Saddam Husayn came up with his new statement, which made no mention of the word peace. Because of this, Saddam upheld the battle slogan and said that this battle will be the mother of all battles to liberate all of mankind, as well as Jerusalem. Hence, this battle will be the battle of honor, dignity, and life for every Iraqi, Saddam added. His statement went on to say that the faithful will not make a single retreat until the honorable end emerges.

It is regrettable that this disturbing statement, which has been the most violent since the eruption of the crisis, has not drawn the required reaction within "the adversaries' camp." Officials in Western capitals found it repulsive but failed to give it due attention, saying that it offered nothing new. As a matter of fact, the new element in the statement is crystal clear. The reference here is to the heightening of tension to the highest peak, and the inflaming of the sentiments of the Iraqi people to rally behind him in his next adventure. The statement aimed at convincing the Iraqi people that his first adventure involving the annexation of Kuwait, the battle preceding the mother of all battles, has been successful. The statement also stated that the alleged adversaries can do nothing because they are incapable of fighting justice. Furthermore, the statement added, they are also preoccupied with their own contradictions, mistakes, and miscalculations.

Libya

Jordanian Paliamentarians Meet With Officials

Received by Al-Qadhdhafi

JN2709202590 Amman Jordan Television Network in Arabic 1700 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Text] In Tripoli last night, Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi received a Jordanian parliamentary delegation led by House Speaker Sulayman 'Arar, who handed over a letter from His Majesty King Husayn.

The Libyan leader told the parliamentary delegation that Libya supports Jordan, and urged that the parliaments of Jordan and Libya coordinate in the interests of the Arab nation and its causes and work to cement ties between the two brotherly peoples.

The Jordanian delegation discussed the regional situation and the hazards posed to the Arab nation by the military presence on its soil.

Hold 'Ideological Dialogue'

LD2709190390 Tripoli JANA in English 1648 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Text] Tripoli, September 27, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY—An ideological dialogue was held this morning in Tripoli between the secretariat of the General People's Congress and the president and members of the parliament in Jordan who are visiting Great Jamahiriya nowadays. During the dialogue they debated a number of mutual issues and the new developments on the Arab arena and the U.S. military intervention in the Arab Gulf region and the danger it poses upon the Arab national security.

The assistant secretary at the secretariat of the General People's Congress presented full briefings and explanations on direct people's democracy being implemented by the people of Great Jamahiriya through the people's congresses and committees.

The chairman of the Jordanian Parliament praised during this dialogue the firm stances of the leader of the revolution towards the unification of the Arab nation. He asserted the solidarity and the standing of the Arab people in Jordan with the people of Great Jamahiriya in its brave confrontation with all aggressive schemes being plotted by imperialism against the Arab nation.

Morocco

King Hassan Receives Spanish Crown Prince

LD2709164790 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Text] His Majesty King Hassan II, accompanied by his royal highness the crown prince, Prince Sidi Mohamed, and His Royal Highness Prince Moulay Rachid, received today at noon in the royal palace in Rabat His Royal Highness Felipe de Borbon, prince of Asturias and crown prince of Spain, accompanied by the delegation escorting his royal highness during his official visit to Morocco.

The meeting was attended by the prime minister, Dr. Azzedine Laraki; the minister of state in charge of foreign affairs and cooperation, Mr. Abdellatif Filali; the minister of cultural affairs, Mr. Mohamed Benaissa; the Spanish ambassador to Morocco, Mr. Joaquin Ortega; and His Majesty's ambassador to Madrid, Mr. Azzedine Guessous.

Tunisia

Boulares Meets Italian Counterpart in New York

LD2709170490 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Text] Foreign Minister Habib Boulares held talks with his Italian counterpart in New York yesterday. During this meeting they exchanged views on the meeting soon to be held in Venice within the framework of the general conference of European-Arab dialogue, which is a body that brings together the Arab League and the EEC. The two sides reviewed the current preparations for the convening of this conference and also the coming meeting on 10 October about regional cooperation among the Mediterranean countries. It is expected that this meeting will enable the countries of the Arab Maghreb Union to put forward their viewpoints on the issues of dialogue and cooperation with the countries of the western Mediterranean.

Kuwait

Army, Police Personnel Given Reporting Deadline

JN2709151490 Kuwait AL-NIDA' in Arabic
24 Sep 90 p 1

[Text] An authorized spokesman in the Governorate of Kuwait has stated the following to a reporter of the IRAQI NEWS AGENCY:

All Army personnel and policemen with the rank of major and lower ranks who served in the Governorate of Kuwait before the inception of the blessed revolution on 2 August 1990 should report to their posts within one week of 25 September 1990. Whoever does not report to his post or fails to report to police stations or Popular Army headquarters to start work, or to opt for retirement during the aforementioned period, will be stripped of all post and legal rights. Furthermore, the state will have no other obligations toward him.

It is God who grants success.

Parliamentarian Hints at Possible Iraqi Pullout

PM2809144590 Riyadh AL-RIYAD in Arabic
25 Sep 90 p 18

[Report on interview with Mubarak al-Duwaylah, former Kuwaiti National Assembly member and a Kuwaiti opposition member, by Ibrahim al-Bashir; place, date not given]

[Excerpts] AL-RIYAD interviewed Mr. Mubarak al-Duwaylah, former Kuwaiti National Assembly member and a Kuwaiti opposition symbol of sincere national affiliation.

Al-Duwaylah revealed to AL-RIYAD many grave secrets about events in Kuwait. He confirmed that the head of the so-called Kuwaiti provisional government was a young Kuwaiti called 'Ala' Husayn al-Jabr and that he and the members of his government formed by the Iraqis were killed by the Iraqi authorities in Baghdad. [passage omitted]

Asked about reports on some nationalities' cooperation with the invaders in Kuwait, Al-Duwaylah said: "Some people cooperated with the invaders, especially among those occupying important posts in the country. For example, only three people knew the whereabouts of the key to the Central Bank safe. The bank governor's secretary—an Arab—knew how to open the safe. She directed the invaders to the safe and opened it for them!

"Those who cooperated with the invaders did so for certain political reasons or because of old grudges or other reasons that are all attributable to hidden spite toward Kuwait.

"There is also another thing that I would like to disclose: A Palestinian major general in the Iraqi Army, called Hittin, took part in the military operations inside Kuwait. Yes, this is the truth: Many Arabs actually backed Iraq against Kuwait." [passage omitted]

Al-Duwaylah added: "I have corroborated information that the seven people appointed by Iraq under the so-called "provisional Kuwaiti government" have been liquidated out of fear that the connections that led to their emergence would be exposed.

"'Ala' Husayn, who was appointed head of the so-called provisional Kuwaiti Government, was a young Kuwaiti whom I knew personally. His parents are known, and I visited them after the events and found them in a regrettable state. They said: 'Ala' must have been forced to do that!" [passage omitted]

He added that 'Ala' Husayn's full name is 'Ala' Husayn al-Khafaji al-Jabr!

On the current situation in Kuwait, Mubarak al-Duwaylah said: "The situation is very difficult at the moment, now that they have appointed the terrorist Husayn Mujid governor of Kuwait." [passage omitted]

Al-Duwaylah said that Kuwaiti detainees have been classified into the following groups: members of the al-Sabah family, religious fundamentalists, and resistance elements.

He also said: "We have noted that in the recent period the Iraqi forces have changed their tack [taharrukha] in Kuwait, as if they are preparing for something...it could be withdrawal from Kuwait.

"They have recently brought in some 30,000 to 40,000 so-called 'special forces,' which are criminal and terrorist forces."

He added: "Incidentally, I must say that Mubarak al-Nut—a Kuwaiti poet and opposition member—was shot dead by the invaders after insisting on carrying a portrait of [Kuwaiti Amir] Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad."

Concluding his interview Mubarak al-Duwaylah said: "Repatriation to Kuwait will be imminent, God willing." [passage omitted]

Aide Denies Claim of 'Offensive Against Iraq'

PM2709114790 Cairo AL-ANBA' in Arabic
26 Sep 90 p 1

[Unattributed report: "Government Official Spokesman Denies What DER SPIEGEL Attributed to Defense Minister"—formerly Kuwait AL-ANBA']

[Text] A government official spokesman in the cabinet yesterday denied the statement attributed to Defense Minister Shaykh Nawwaf al-Ahmad al-Jabir al-Sabah by the West German magazine DER SPIEGEL about a military offensive against Iraq. In its latest edition, the magazine quoted Shaykh Nawwaf as saying that U.S. and Arab forces would land in Khawr 'Abdallah and to the south of Shatt-al-'Arab and advance west to isolate the Iraqi forces in Kuwait from the Iraqi forces in Iraq and cut off their supply lines.

In a statement to the Kuwait News Agency, the Kuwaiti Government spokesman said that the defense minister had made no such statement and that he totally denies it. He added that the statement attributed by the German magazine to the defense minister, to the effect that if he were U.S. President George Bush he would attack Iraq, was not made by the defense minister, and that he had not broached that subject at all.

Foreign Minister Welcomes UN Air Blockade

LD2709214590 Riyadh Television Service in Arabic 2007 GMT 27 Sep 90

[From the "State of Kuwait Television Message"]

[Text] Dear viewers, now we meet Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir al-Sabah, deputy prime minister and foreign minister. How do you view the situation in the Gulf region following the vote in the UN Security Council last night for a resolution to impose an air blockade on Iraq?

[Al-Sabah] In fact, I was happy to attend that meeting, and I was happier that the meeting was at the level of foreign ministers, especially those of the permanent members of the UN Security Council. As you know, the resolution was adopted unanimously, except for Cuba, which voted against the resolution because it confused the issue of the blockade with the issue of occupying Kuwait. [sentence as heard]

Anyway, I think that the resolution is the last to be adopted by the UN Security Council. The resolution is a message from the UN Security Council saying that if the UN resolutions are not implemented, then there will be another resolution, and that other resolution will undoubtedly be military.

All we hope for is that Iraq will submit to the international will, and will not expose its people to ruin. We hope that Iraq will submit to international legitimacy. At the same time, I consider that Iraq has isolated itself from the world, therefore it has to bear responsibility for this isolation. I consider that the Iraqi people were wronged because of the intransigence of their leadership on this issue.

All I hope for is that Iraq will submit to these resolutions, and that the [Saddam Husayn's] current intransigence in his speeches and statements will end, otherwise the fate of the Iraqi people will not be good.

Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs Interviewed

PM2709112190 London AL-QABAS AL-DUWALI in Arabic 23 Sep 90 p 2

[Unattributed interview with Dr. 'Abd-al-Rahman al-'Awadi, minister of state for cabinet affairs, in London, date not given—formerly Kuwait AL-QABAS AL-DUWALI]

[Excerpts] [AL-QABAS AL-DUWALI] Dr. 'Abd-al-Rahman al-'Awadi, you took part in the Kuwait-Iraq border talks. What is your comment on Saddam's allegations that Kuwait is Iraqi territory?

[Al-'Awadi] They are lies and untrue allegations prompted by Saddam's personal ambitions. Kuwait has been in existence for two centuries—before the existence of Iraq. And no problems occurred over borders. There are agreements and treaties, and if Saddam's lies have any semblance of truth, let him prove them to us and reveal them to the world. They are lies and ambitions, nothing else. [passage omitted]

[AL-QABAS AL-DUWALI] Before the invasion talks were confined to financial matters. Why did the problem reach that point?

[Al-'Awadi] During the Iraq-Iran war Kuwait supported Iraq with money and everything it could provide for a sister state. Iraq used the oil ports and we asked for nothing. But matters exceeded the limits to the extent that Saddam started to blackmail Kuwait, demanding $16 billion to which he had no right. And when we rejected the pressure and blackmail the result was the Iraqi invasion, which, first and last, confirms concealed ambitions and spite in that man's heart. [passage omitted]

[AL-QABAS AL-DUWALI] Do you believe that Saddam's policy and maneuvers are designed to prolong his occupation of Kuwait, pending international changes?

[Al-'Awadi] Kuwait will be restored. It will be restored without any conditions and no matter how long it takes. International legitimacy rejects the invasion, and Saddam has been exposed before the entire world. And his removal is imminent, because that man poses a threat to the world as a whole, not only Kuwait. I do not believe that anyone will extend a helping hand to him.

[AL-QABAS AL-DUWALI] There are no indications of a political move between Kuwait and Iraq.

[Al-'Awadi] We will not accept negotiation with that person. No negotiation or talks before the unconditional withdrawal and the restoration of Kuwaiti legitimacy without any concessions or pressures.

[AL-QABAS AL-DUWALI] Do you not believe that attempts in the past to eliminate Egypt from the Arab scene as an influential power has had negative effects on the region and increased Iraqi arrogance?

[Al-'Awadi] It was Iraq which wanted to eliminate Egypt from the Arab scene, even though Iraq was the first to benefit from Egyptian aid. And had it not been for Egypt's support for him in the war with Iran, Saddam would have been finished completely. Saddam wanted to drag Egypt into an alliance and involve it with him against the Gulf. But President Muhammad Husni Mubarak's courageous and strong position revealed the truth about that deceiver and conspirator who is seeking personal glory at the expense of brothers and their blood.

[AL-QABAS AL-DUWALI] What about the position of Yasir 'Arafat and King Husayn?

[Al-'Awadi] It is a regrettable and disgraceful position, especially on Yasir 'Arafat's part. Why is he adopting a hostile position toward Kuwait, which backed him? He has destroyed the Palestinian cause by his support for the Iraqi invasion, as if giving the Jews the right to imitate Saddam.

If he recognizes the Iraqi invasion, why does he blame the Jews and look for a solution to the Palestinian issue. What 'Arafat has done is treason to honesty and the Palestinian cause. As for King Husayn, we do not know the reasons for his disgraceful position toward the Kuwaiti Government, which backed him all the way. I am saddened and pained by that suspicious position on King Husayn's part. [passage omitted]

[AL-QABAS AL-DUWALI] What measures has the Kuwait Government taken to stop the Kuwaitis' evacuation? How can the crime of the depopulation of Kuwait be prevented??

[Al-'Awadi] It is a despicable method which no one, except the Jews and the Israelis, has pursued. It has been revealed to the world that Saddam's ideas are in line with Zionist ideas. All that he is doing against the people of Kuwait is internationally rejected. And the Kuwaiti Government has submitted a memorandum to the United Nations condemning these actions. And the honorable sons of Kuwait will never abandon their territory, nor will they be evacuated. And, God willing, they will return stronger than before. And whatever the invader's evil actions, we will return.

Further on Resistance Actions Against Iraq

Soldiers Killed 21 Sep

PM2809101790 London AL-ZAHIRAH in Arabic 25 Sep 90 p 1

[Unattributed report: "Daring Operation by Kuwaiti Resistance"]

[Excerpt] Dhahran, AL-ZAHIRAH, exclusive—In a daring operation inside occupied Kuwait following Friday prayers on 21 September a group of resistance elements managed to kill 20 Iraqi soldiers by strangulation after leading them away to a site where they were killed quietly within minutes. The resistance elements were also able to leave the position they had infiltrated.

A group of young Kuwaiti resistance members has been active recently in tempting scores of Iraqi soldiers with money; buying their arms, uniforms, and military badges in preparation for carrying out several daring operations, one of which was last Friday's operation which provoked the Iraqi occupation forces' reaction and alarm in Kuwait City and prompted them to enter the city's hotels one by one. [passage omitted]

Patrol, Embassy Attacked

NC2709210390 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Text] A statement by the Kuwaiti resistance announced today that a resistance group launched a successful attack against an Iraqi occupation forces patrol in the Kuwaiti capital, killing an Iraqi officer and three soldiers. The statement said another group attacked the Iraqi embassy in Kuwait with rockets for the second time in a week. The attack caused extensive damage to the embassy building.

Minister of State To Visit Iran, Meet President

LD2709140990 London KUNA in Arabic 1321 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Formerly Kuwait KUNA]

[Text] Al-Ta'if, 27 Sep (KUNA)—Shaykh Nasir Muhammad al-Ahmad al-Jabir, envoy of his highness the amir of Kuwait and minister of state for foreign affairs, will leave for the Iranian capital, Tehran, tomorrow Thursday [as received] where he will convey a verbal message from his highness [the amir] to the Iranian president, His Excellency 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani, concerning bilateral relations and developments in the region. The minister will also meet Kuwaiti citizens who were forced to leave their country by the occupation authorities.

Saudi Decision To Cut Off Jordan Oil Assailed

JN2709203090 Kuwait AL-NIDA' in Arabic 24 Sep 90 p 8

[Article by al-Sadiq al-Sahrawi: "O Arabs, Death Has Become so Exquisite"]

[Text] With total ease of mind, the Al Sa'ud family has cut off oil supplies to Jordan, alleging that Jordan has not paid for the oil it has imported.

This allegation makes the position of this family, which has become notorious for lying and treason, look silly.

The silly thing about the issue is that this family has chosen not to admit that the decision to cut off oil supplies to Jordan was made at the behest of the U.S. Administration. Similarly, this family wants us to believe this little lie, which cannot even be believed by children.

If we were to believe this little lie, we would be ready to believe the big lie that the Al Sa'ud family has been promoting when they say that the American and Atlantic troops will withdraw from the Arabian Peninsula when the custodian of the two holy mosques requests them to do so.

If we were to believe this, the resolution of all thorny issues would then become imminent and be taken for granted. If we were to believe this, then we would believe that the George Bush administration takes orders from the Al Sa'ud family. Consequently, we would also believe that the crusader troops in the region are taking orders from the generals of the ruling family, who fared well in the battles to defend Arab rights in brothels, whorehouses, horse races, and at the gambling tables.

We would also believe that these invading troops came to the region at the request of the Al Sa'ud family, not against its wishes. Furthermore, we would also believe that the Egyptian ruler's positions were motivated by purely pan-Arab considerations. If this were the case, we would not view these positions taken by the Egyptian ruler as implementing U.S. orders, in return for bribes, and serving Zionist and imperialist schemes through the subjugation of the region to domination, the plundering of its wealth, and the silencing of its noble voices.

The Al Sa'ud family might want us to believe all this. However, it knows quite well that it cannot deceive all the people all the time. That is because the objectives and purposes of this decision are exposed. This decision seeks to break Jordan's strength and to force it to change its support for Iraq in the fateful battle of confrontation led by Iraq against the Western imperialist forces.

By so doing, the Al Sa'ud family has made a big mistake to be added to the long list of sins that mark its history. By this decision, this family has pushed the Jordanian Government and people into the camp of confrontation, which is expected to expand to make up human waves that will destroy the Arab nation's betrayers and enemies.

The Al Sa'ud family is well aware that it is paying Jordan what is its own right, considering that this family usurped authority from the family of al-Sharif Husayn, the king of Hejaz, and named the entire Arabian Peninsula after its own name, just as the Zionist entity did when it changed the name of Arab Palestine into Israel.

By this dirty move, the Al Sa'ud family seeks to pursue the same policy the former Kuwaiti rulers pursued against Iraq; namely, the policy of harming the livelihood of people after breaking their necks. Over the past years, King Husayn might have chosen to remain silent regarding his right to rule Hejaz and Najd [Saudi Arabia] for numerous reasons. However, the usurpers of authority in the Arabian Peninsula have placed him in the inevitable camp of confrontation.

Had it had a modicum of Arab affiliation, the Al Sa'ud family would have known that no rights are forfeited as long as there are people to claim them. If this family does not know how to learn from the lessons of history, we would like to remind it that it was King Faysal I, King Husayn's uncle, who shouted the call: "O Arabs, death has become so exquisite."

Qatar

Pakistani Prime Minister Arrives From UAE

BK2709121190 Islamabad Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Text] Prime Minister Mr. Ghulam Mustafa Jatoi arrived in Doha on the last leg of his tour of three Gulf countries. At the Doha Airport he was greeted by the crown prince of Qatar, Shaykh Khalifah Bin-Hamad Al Thani besides high-ranking Qatar officials and Pakistanis living there.

Earlier, talking to newsmen in Dubayy shortly before his departure for Doha, the prime minister said he has undertaken his goodwill visit to express Pakistan's solidarity with the brotherly countries of the Gulf in the prevailing situation. Replying to a question, he said Pakistan's economy has been seriously jolted because of the Gulf crisis. As for Pakistanis returning home from Kuwait, the government is taking all possible steps for their rehabilitation.

Answering another question, Mr. Ghulam Mustafa Jatoi said the Supreme Court has issued stay order against the judgment of the Peshawar High Court regarding restoration of the dissolved NWFP [Northwest Frontier Province] assembly. He said the government would honor the verdict of the Supreme Court which is already hearings petitions against president's order of dissolution of the National Assembly.

Delivers Message to Amir

NC2709150090 Paris AFP in English 1351 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Text] Doha, Sept 27 (AFP)—Acting Pakistani Prime Minister Ghulam Mustafa Jatoi met here Thursday [27 September] with the amir of Qatar, Shaykh Khalifa Bin-Hamad Al Thani, to discuss the Gulf crisis, official sources reported.

Mr. Jatoi handed Shaykh Khalifa a message from Pakistani President Ghulam Ishaq Khan and held talks on the crisis, sparked by the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait last month, they said.

Pakistan has sent 2,000 troops to Saudi Arabia to serve alongside contingents from Egypt, Syria, Morocco, the United States, Britain and France. The deployments were sought by Saudi authorities to help in the kingdom's defense against a possible Iraqi attack.

Gulf-based Pakistani diplomatic sources said Mr. Jatoi's tour of the region, which has also taken him to Oman and the United Arab Emirates, is aimed at ensuring continued supplies of oil.

Pakistan imported nearly 60 per cent of its oil from Kuwait prior to the Iraqi invasion, or 80,000 barrels a day.

At present that amount is being provided by Saudi Arabia by terms of a recent accord.

Promises 'Free, Fair' Elections

BK2709134390 Islamabad Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Text] Prime Minister Mr. Ghulam Mustafa Jatoi has reiterated that elections will be held in a free, fair, and impartial manner on the 24th of next month and there should be no ambiguity in anyone's mind. Addressing Pakistanis living in Dubayy shortly before his departure for Doha today, the prime minister said the caretaker government would accept the verdict of the people in the elections. He said it was the endeavor of the government to pave the way for establishment of a clean and better society in the country through the elections. He said the present government was trying to ensure that the society was (?free) of loot, plunder, corruption, and social evils.

Prime Minister Jatoi said that Pakistan has assurred the brotherly Gulf states of its unstinted support in the crisis arising out of Iraqi invasion and annexation of Kuwait. He said Pakistan is deeply concerned over the developments in the Gulf and during his visit to different Gulf countries he held out a hand of solidarity to them.

The prime minister has now arrived in Doha on the last leg of his Gulf tour.

Departs After One-Day Visit

JN2709193290 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1350 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Text] Doha, 27 Sep (WAKH)—Pakistani Prime Minister Ghulam Mustafa Jatoi left Doha this afternoon following a one-day visit to the State of Qatar as part of a tour of a number of the region's states.

The Pakistani prime minister was seen off at Doha international airport by His Highness Shaykh Hamad Bin-Khalifah Al Thani, Qatari heir apparent and defense minister.

During the visit, the Pakistani prime minister conveyed a message from Pakistani President Ghulam Ishaq Khan to Qatari Amir His Highness Shaykh Khalifah Bin-Hamad Al Thani on the situation in the Gulf, Pakistan's position on this situation, and bilateral ties.

Saudi Arabia

Fahd Call for Women in Armed Forces Criticized

JN2409180590 (Clandestine) Holy Mecca Radio in Arabic 0840 GMT 24 Sep 90

[Text] To our kinfolk in Najd and Hejaz [Saudi Arabia]; reports filtering through to our ears about what is happening in our country and what is being committed by male and female U.S. and Zionist soldiers makes our blood boil and our patience run out. However, what adds insult to injury is the news we heard about the regime of the betrayer of the two holy mosques; that he called on women and youths of our country to volunteer in the Armed Forces. This in itself is commendable. Arab women are equal to men. If this means anything, then it means that the woman has a respectable position in society. In our history, the Arab woman has fought alongside her Arab brother. We have examples of that in al-Khansa', Khawlah, and many others.

In fraternal Iraq, the woman has fought alongside her brother, the man, and for eight years, during which she constituted powerful ammunition, and a source of support and backing for the fighters in the battle and in society, where she merited the title of the glorious woman.

However, there are many things that worry us about the call to the daughters of our country to join the Armed Forces. One of these is that the call comes at this time when our country is occupied by the soldiers of the United States and the Jews and when foreign troops are massed on our holy soil, desecrating it day and night. These are forces of invasion, whose target is our oil resources, just as their target is also aggression on fraternal Iraq, the Arab country that fought on our behalf for eight long years to maintain our identity and traditions.

Therefore, we believe that the call made by the betrayer of the two holy mosques at this time is questionable. Does Fahd believe that the Hejaz and Najd woman is ready to volunteer in our Armed Forces to support the soldiers of the invading U.S. Zionist soldier who is occupying our country? Does he believe that our honor is so trivial to us that we will allow our daughters to stand next to Zionist and U.S. soldiers—pork eaters, sinners, and AIDS victims? Where was the regime of this agent and betrayer during the whole period of the Zionist occupation of Palestine, and the third holiest shrine, which is still under occupation? Why did he not think of volunteering the women in our country, for example, in an army prepared for the liberation of Palestine? Or is he thinking of turning our women into instruments of pleasure and entertainment for Bush's pigs and Shamir's tigers that he has brought over.

Finance Minister Reviews Oil Prices, U.S. Ties

LD2809003390 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 2305 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Text] Washington, 27 Sep (SPA)—His Excellency Mr. Muhammad Aba al-Khayl, minister of finance and national economy, has reaffirmed that the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has always and forever sought to stabilize oil prices. He added that the Kingdom's policies as far as oil prices are concerned are firm and unchanged.

His Excellency Mr. Muhammad Aba al-Khayl, who is chairing the Kingdom's delegation to the annual meeting of the IMF and the International Bank for Development and Construction (IBDC), pointed out in an interview with SPA that this year's meetings of the IMF and IBDC have focused on the problem of the current increase in oil prices, which has been brought about by the Iraqi occupation of the State of Kuwait, as well as the issue of the countries that have suffered as a result of the occupation and the repercussions of the crisis on the region.

His excellency said: "The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has tried at these meetings, whether through speeches, or in meetings and direct discussion, to point out that the current increase in oil prices is sudden, and results from psychological factors and rumors rather than real reasons." He added: "The oil on offer in the market should meet, to a certain extent, the demand, a matter which should not allow such a rise." His excellency pointed out that the IMF and IBDC have shown their readiness to help countries harmed by the Gulf crisis. He added that developed countries have urged the IMF and IBDC to do so, pointing out in this respect their statements to this effect.

On the effects on the current Arabian Gulf crisis on the Saudi economy, and its repercussions on oil market, His Excellency Mr. Muhammad Aba al-Khayl said: "The rise in oil prices does not affect the Kingdom internally; the prices are fixed, and therefore the Kingdom's consumers are not affected by such a problem."

His excellency said: "The problem of the increase in oil prices, as well as the rise in the Kingdom's revenues from oil, will be matched by colossal responsibilities as far as the situation in the Arabian Gulf is concerned. The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia is now the focal point in efforts to remedy the situation that has been brought about by the Iraqi occupation of the fraternal State of Kuwait. Such efforts are aimed at restoring normalcy to the State of Kuwait, as well as to its legitimate government."

His excellency commented on the American President's announcement to set up a group for consultation under the American Treasury secretary to help countries more affected by the Gulf crisis, saying: "This new announcement is under discussion at the moment; the Kingdom has, however, taken the initiative, as usual, and helped a number of countries which have suffered."

Concerning the achievements of the technical cooperation agreement between the Kingdom and the United States of America, the renewal of which was signed yesterday, his excellency said: "The agreement on technical cooperation began 15 years ago, and its term was for five years. It was renewed everytime it expired. Through this agreement, enormous businesses were realized and fruitful coopertion took place. Technology and knowledge were transferred to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia."

He added: "The technical cooperation agreement, and the joint Saudi-American committee which emerged from the agreement, had a great and positive role to play in the past 15 years. A great number of government organs benefited from it. A number of Saudi young men also benefited from American expertise, whether through training in the United States or through working alongside American experts.

At the end of his statement, his excellency stated that there is a trend toward expanding the framework of the work of the joint committee, and concentraing on transferring modern technology. There will be future meetings to define programs.

Jordan Companies To Send U.S. Soldiers Alcohol

JN2109162390 Cairo AL-SHA'B in Arabic
11 Sep 90 p 1

[Text] Saudi Arabia has concluded a deal with some Jordanian companies working in the alcohol industry to supply American soldiers and their allies with their alcohol needs. Washington had sent [to Saudi Arabia] two billion cans [figure as published] of U.S.-made alcohol, but they were consumed in less than one month.

Measures To Increase Food Production Summarized

JN2809065490 Baghdad Voice of Peace
to Saudi Arabia in English 1140 GMT 27 Sep 90

["Special Program" entitled "Iraq's Agriculture Ministry Takes Measures To Fight Blockade"]

[Text] Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation has taken measures to confront the economic blockade enforced by America and its allies on Iraq. In the first place, the ministry decided to make use of the largest possible agricultural areas available at present and during the coming winter season. It also decided to provide locally-produced fertilizers and to distribute them in the proper time to farmers. In the meantime, the ministry has carefully studied the reserve of animal feed available at poultry projects in order to fairly distribute the raw material necessary for them. The ministry also decided to form a number of committees to examine and diagnose animal diseases at an earlier stage. The ministry asked agricultural extension bodies and agriculture and irrigation ventures in the provinces to launch campaigns to make people working in agriculture use scientific methods in agriculture like the preparation of land, the use of fertilizers, and irrigation in the way that guarantees an increase in the productivity of each donum. A donum is equal to 2,500 square meters. These campaigns must also show people and farmers how to increase the production of eggs and meat, and how to make use of home gardens in producing vegetables.

The ministry has asked agricultural and irrigation bodies and farmers unions at the provinces to give clear instructions on the most useful and rational exploitation of water. The farmers should make use of the high prices paid to them by the government for their agricultural produce and should, therefore, work to produce high-quality crops and protect them from pests.

Meanwhile, Minister of Agriculture and Irrigation 'Abd-al-Wahhab Mahmud stressed that his ministry is quite serious about providing [words indistinct] and protect them from starvation, which imperialist quarters want to impose. [Word indistinct] people working in agriculture [words indistinct] designs on the country.

In the meantime, the General Federation of Farming Cooperatives held an emergency meeting on August 15 in which it adopted a number of decisions to fully exploit the potentials and resources available at present to increase and improve productivity. The meeting also stressed the significance of [words indistinct] of locally-produced foods and the reasonable use of water pumps in irrigation. Furthermore, the meeting recommended that more attention must be paid to dates farms since dates are good nourishing food containing rich vitamins. The meeting also recommended a number of decisions related to livestock production. The farmers are also required to raise hens to benefit from their meat and eggs to satisfy the local needs.

On the other hand, the Agricultural Bank increased borrowings by farmers by percent 100. The objective behind this decision [words indistinct] is to exploit the agricultural lands allocated for wheat, barley, corn, rice, soya, and potatoes. The bank pays the price for seeds and fertilizers. This amounts to 250,000 Iraqi dinars for individual and 500,000 Iraqi dinars for agricultural companies' projects. The total amount of money allocated for borrowing by farmers has reached 105 million dinars. The bank offers 40 percent of this sum of money to the production of wheat, barley, and corn. The bank has [word indistinct] penalize farmers who do not use the money for the real purpose. The amount of money given to the farmers will be taken back with the total interest of 14 percent.

Romanian Secretary of State Pays Visit

WA2809122190

For Romanian reportage on the visit by Romanian Secretary of State to Saudi Arabia, including reports on his talks with Crown Prince of Saudi Arabia 'Abdallah Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz, Kuwaiti Prime Minister Shaykh Sa'd al-Abdullah al-Salim al-Sabah, and United Arab Emirates President Shaykh Zayid Bin-Sultan Al Nuhayyan, please see the Romania section of the 28 September East Europe DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

United Arab Emirates

EC Deputy Comments on Gulf Crisis, Kuwait

JN2709174390 Manama WAKH in English 1540 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Text] Abu Dhabi, Sept 27 (GNA)—A European Community (EC) deputy urged today a strict approach towards Iraq to force it out of Kuwait and said he believed United Nations measures will achieve that goal. It is important that we follow a strict approach to (Iraqi President) Saddam Husayn to persuade him to get his troops out of Kuwait, Andrea Bonetti [name as received] of Italy told reporters.

In my opinion, United Nations resolutions on sanctions against Iraq will achieve that end. Bonetti is heading an eight-man EC parliamentary delegation that has also visited Saudi Arabia and Qatar. Its discussion covered soaring oil prices, the Gulf crisis and EC- Gulf economic relations.

The EC is keen about a peaceful solution to the Gulf crisis through enforcement of U.N. decisions, he said. He said the EC public opinion supported European military presence in the Gulf, where the United States and Arab and Islamic countries have also deployed troops.

Europe has around 30 warships and thousands of troops along other forces, called to help defend regional states against a possible Iraqi attack after the invasion of Kuwait on August 2. As you realise, in the past 20 years Europe has actually seen an increase in pacifist movements, he said.

But this does not necessarily affect the situation in the Gulf because the way it is managed and understood by the people has not given rise to any public protest, he added. He said Europe would maintain military presence in the Gulf during the Kuwait crisis so long as the public opinion wanted so.

Yemen

Salih Discusses Gulf, Welcomes French Initiative

JN2709133490 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Excerpts] Brothers Lieutenant General 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, chairman of the Presidential Council, and 'Ali Salim al-Bid, vice chairman of the Presidential Council, sponsored the celebration at the War College on the occasion of the graduation of the 37th and 17th groups of the War College, the 24th group of the Police College, the second group of the Air Defense College and the fifth group of the War College [sentence as heard].

Brother Lieutenant General 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih delivered a speech at the celebration. At the outset, he said that the celebration of the General Committee of the eternal Revolution anniversary comes while our Arab homeland is at a dangerous stage, particularly in the Gulf and Arabian Peninsula.

He said that our country's position on the Gulf crisis is clear and constant, and finds the peaceful solution, which is based on the Iraqi forces' withdrawal from Kuwait [words indistinct] which led to this crisis among the brothers by peaceful means and within the Arab family.

He also expressed hope that the international community would encourage and support these solutions so as to come up with a peaceful solution instead of escalation and the military option. At the same time, our position stresses the need for the foreign forces' withdrawal from the region and for ending the comprehensive embargo on fraternal Iraq.

He added that our country is still making sincere efforts on the Arab and international levels to resolve this problem peacefully. In this regard, our country presented a draft resolution to the (?Security Council), which is supported by a number of Security Council member states. This draft resolution will be discussed next Friday. [passage omitted]

The brother president said our country welcomes the French initiative announced by French President Francois Mitterrand. He said this initiative, in our view, represents a positive, practical step that deserves discussion and development.

The brother president also talked about the media blackout and misrepresentation by some countries of our country's stands and sincere efforts to find a peaceful solution. He added: We know full well that if war breaks out, God forbid, it will bring destruction and ruin on the sons of the Arab nation, particularly in the Arabian Peninsula and the Gulf.

The brother president addressed those who are escalating the situation and beating the war drums in this stage, by saying that this is a serious and odious action. [passage omitted]

Paper Says Two RCC Members Eliminated

PM2809095390 London AL-ZAHIRAH in Arabic 24 Sep 90 p 1

[Unattributed report: "Execution of Tariq and Sa'dun"]

[Text] London—AL-ZAHIRAH has learned that an Iraqi minister close to the Iraqi leadership and with direct links with Saddam Husayn was liquidated in the past few days without any announcement to that effect.

Sources close to some Iraqi officials have revealed that Tariq al-'Abdallah, former chief of the presidential court and planning minister tried, unsuccessfully, to commit suicide after intelligence officers set a trap to get rid of him politically by accusing his brother of trying to leave the country for treatment without prior official permission from the presidential palace. Large quantities of dollars he had bought on the black market were seized.

According to informed sources, Tariq al-'Abdallah, who had managed presidential affairs for a long time, sensed there was an intention to liquidate him following the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait after he expressed an opinion at a meeting of the Iraqi Revolution Command Council [RCC] on the economic blockade against Iraq. He tried to commit suicide in his office at the Iraqi Presidential Palace, but Iraqi intelligence finished him off and has so far kept quiet about it.

Iraqi sources had earlier revealed that RCC member and former Interior Minister Sa'dun Shakir, who was one of the people close to Saddam, was arrested and executed with three others 17 August after the discovery of an attempt to overthrow Saddam Husayn which prompted the regime to announce that he had been pensioned off.

Sa'dun Shakir and Tariq al-'Abdallah were the latest victims of Saddam Husayn since the Gulf crisis began. Both were born in Tikrit and were among the closest people to Saddam Husayn since the beginning of their party lives.

With the liquidation of Sa'dun Shakir and Tariq al-'Abdallah the number of members of the RCC, the highest authority in Iraq, becomes seven. It should be recalled that another RCC member, former Defense Minister and Saddam Husayn's brother-in-law General 'Adnan Khayrallah, was liquidated 6 May last year in a helicopter crash after a family dispute between Saddam and his wife, Sajidah Khayrallah Ibrahim.

AFP Lists Items Reportedly Denied Foreigners

NC2709164590 Paris AFP in English 1512 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Text] Baghdad, Sept 27 (AFP)—Foreigners living in Iraq and Kuwait after October 1 will no longer have access to nine rationed food commodities, the interior ministry said here Thursday.

The nearly two million foreign nationals will be unable to buy rice, flour, cooking oil, tea, starchy foods, sugar, soap, detergent and powdered milk for infants at either subsidized prices or on the open market.

Most of the items, namely flour, rice, sugar and powdered milk, have been off the open market for several days now and can only be purchased with a ration card.

The rest are expected to be withdrawn from the open market between now and October 1.

An Iraqi source on Wednesday had said authorities here would cut off food to all foreigners after October 1 but did not specify which products would be covered by the ruling.

He said Foreign Minister Tariq 'Aziz had informed the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) that his country could no longer subsidize food supplies for foreigners because of an international trade embargo against Baghdad.

In Geneva, an ICRC spokesman denied Thursday that it had been informed by Iraq that food supplies to foreigners would be suspended after Monday.

The spokesman said Iraq had informed the ICRC of "difficulties in providing supplies for foreign nationals" but had not mentioned a deadline for a cutoff.

A land, sea and air blockade has been imposed on Iraq by the United Nations Security Council as part of a campaign to force it to withdraw its troops from Kuwait.

Procedures Detailed for New ID Cards in Kuwait

JN2709170990 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1355 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Text] Baghdad, 27 Sep (INA)—Major general, the director-general [title as received] of the Naturalization and Civil Affairs, has explained that, after the issuance of Revolution Command Council Decision No. 383 on 25 September 1990, which provides for the replacement of the identity card given to Kuwaitis under the Kuwaiti Civil Information System Law No. 32 for the year 1982 with the identity card issued under the provisions of the amended Civil Affairs Law No. 65 for the year 1972, the Kuwaiti identity card shall not be considered valid for use for official purposes one month after the expiration of the decision, as of 1 October 1990 until 31 October 1990. [sentence as received]

In a statement to INA, he said that the Interior Ministry statement on 26 September called on the citizens of the sons of the Governorate of Kuwait and the districts attached to it—Kazimah, al-Jahra', and al-Nida'—to go to the Naturalization and Civil Affairs [Department] in the Governorate of Kuwait between 1 October 1990 and 31 October, carrying their official documents with them. These documents are: The original identity card—a photocopy will not be accepted—the naturalization certificate, and the birth certificate for sons of Kuwaitis who have a naturalization certificate and have not yet obtained an identity card—and three new photos of family members.

The major general, director-general of Naturalization and Civil Affairs, explained that Kuwaitis who reside outside Iraq should refer to Iraqi embassies along with the above documents to complete the process of replacing their civil cards with the identity card.

He added that the government has taken all measures necessary to receive applicants and conduct their business accurately and speedily. He also pointed out that the new identity card shall be the only valid legal document for official purposes, and no other document shall be valid after 31 October 1990.

He also explained that, because the identity card is the sole valid legal document for official purposes, the head of the family should be very exact when he provides the required data and information. Any wrong information provided will invalidate the identity card, and anyone who does so will be subject to legal questioning.

He added that sons of Kuwaitis who have never obtained a Kuwaiti identity card should present their birth certificates which were issued in Kuwait previously, or present evidence of birth provided by a competent court in order to register their names and the names of their families in the civil record.

He said that special application forms have been prepared for the replacement process, and that the Foreign Ministry's Consular Department will distribute them to our embassies abroad, so that Kuwaiti citizens living outside Iraq can complete them in order to get an identity card.

Unloading of Indian Food Cargo Begins 28 Sep

BK2809095790 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0830 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] The unloading operation of the foodstuffs from the Indian ship, Vishva Siddhi, now anchored at Umm Qasr port of Iraq begins today. The relief material will be stored in Basra and will be taken for distribution in Kuwait by truck. The actual distribution of foodstuff among the stranded Indians in Iraq and Kuwait is expected to commence in the next three days.

Our Gulf correspondent, Avinash Goel, reports that the passengers ships—Tippur Sultan and Akbar—have also docked in Umm Qasr. Tippu Sultan is scheduled to leave for Dubayy today with 700 Indians. Akbar will evacuate about 1,800 Indians.

Ramadan Receives French Friendship Society Leader

JN2709191890 Baghdad INA in Arabic
1518 GMT 26 Sep 90

[Text] Baghdad, 26 Sep (INA)—Taha Yasin Ramadan, Revolution Command Council member and first deputy prime minister, received today Gille Monet [name as received], secretary general of the French-Iraqi Friendship Society.

The first deputy prime minister explained that the Arabian Gulf crisis has revealed the falsehood of slogans and has effected a division of forces. He indicated that the positions of the Western states that are linked to the hostile U.S. policy have shown the falsehood of their slogans as regards independence, free will, and human rights, because the governments of these states have taken positions in a dictatorial manner without taking into account the will or positions of their peoples.

Taha Yasin Ramadan said that the Iraqis are capable of breaking all forms of blockade and siege, as the land of Iraq is known for its abundant water resources, wealth, and farmland. Similarly, the Iraqis are capable of securing food and medicine by their strong arms, Ramadan added.

Giles Monet noted that the Zionists had intensified their activities and influence with the Western governments for the purpose of launching aggression against Iraq since Iraq became the primary military and economic power in the region.

Monet said that Zionism is pursuing a policy to weaken Iraq through its strategic allies in the United States and quarters linked with it. He emphasized that the imperialist-U.S-Western media is misrepresenting the facts regarding Iraq. He added that the friends of Iraq in France are well aware of these facts and also of the objectives behind the anti-Iraq campaign. He went on to say that they condemn the food and medicine embargo enforced against the Iraqi people because it is an inhumane act.

Ramadan Receives French Muslim Delegation

JN2709190790 Baghdad INA in Arabic
1340 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Text] Baghdad, 27 Sep (INA)—Taha Yasin Ramadan, Revolution Command Council member and first deputy prime minister, received today a delegation of the French volunteers led by Shaykh al-Hashimi Banini [name as received], chairman of the society of Muslim veterans in France.

The first deputy prime minister said that Iraq will continue its peaceful efforts on a humanitarian basis, noting that the Iraqi measures to host the foreigners is a sincere initiative to save the world from the dangers of the disasters with which the enemies of mankind are threatening to commit aggression against Iraq.

Ramadan said that the delegation's initiative to come to Iraq as guests at its vital installations in these circumstances is to show that people do not want war and that they are contributing with their just positions to the achievement of peace. He added that the voices in the world that reject military escalation and the embargo are stronger than the voices of advocates of war and aggression.

The head of the delegation of the French volunteers praised Iraq's practical positions and its concern to achieve peace. He also praised President Saddam Husayn's 12 August initiative to solve all problems in the Arab region and bring lasting peace to this region. He also noted that the international resolutions to besiege Iraq and deprive it of food, medicine, and children's milk are inhumane. He added that world public opinion rejects the resolutions to starve people, which are thus in opposition to the most basic international laws, norms, and charters.

Ramadan Receives Pakistani Islamic Leader

JN2609193290 Baghdad INA in Arabic
1640 GMT 26 Sep 90

[Text] Baghdad, 26 Sep (INA)—Taha Yasin Ramadan, Revolution Command Council member and first deputy prime minister, has received Qazi Hussain Ahmed, leader of the Jamaat-e-Islami in Pakistan, and his accompanying delegation.

The first deputy prime minister said the U.S. and foreign occupation of the holy lands in Najd and Hejaz [Saudi Arabia] is an extension of the Zionist occupation of the sacred territory in Palestine.

He pointed out that this occupation has revealed the falsity of claims made by the agents of the United States and the Zionist entity regarding the liberation of Palestine, while they are the ones who placed themselves hostage in the hands of the Zionists and Americans and servants to the enemies of the Arabs and the Muslims.

Mr. Taha Yasin Ramadan said that Iraq is not alone in confronting the American tyrant, and that Iraq under President Saddam Husayn is honored to lead the confrontation against the infidels, atheists, and their allies to defend the Arab and Islamic holy shrines.

He added that the preparedness of the Muslims in all parts of the world, along with the sons of Arabism, constitutes the colossal army with which Iraq is fighting the aggressors.

The leader of the Jamaat-e-Islami in Pakistan that the occupation by the United States and Western fleets of the lands of Najd and Hejaz is an aggression on all the feelings of the Muslims and their shrines.

He said the jihad is a duty for all Muslims to expel the infidel troops from the holy lands, where infidels and atheists are not allowed to tread, according to the Islamic laws.

Qazi Hussain Ahmed praised the wise leadership of President Saddam Husayn and announced that the Jamaat-e-Islami in Pakistan volunteers to defend the Muslim shrines, which have been desecrated by the enemies of Islam in cooperation with their servants, slaves, and agents.

Salih Confers With Abu Nidal Group's Hamdan

JN2609183190 Baghdad INA in Arabic
1558 GMT 26 Sep 90

[Text] Baghdad, 26 Sep (INA)—Speaker of the National Council Sa'di Mahdi Salih met today with brother Hamdan, secretary of the Fatah Revolutionary Council, and his delegation.

The speaker of the National Council stressed Iraq's permanent, firm concern to establish a just peace in the Middle East region that guarantees a balanced solution based on the peoples' rights, and out of respect for their sovereignty, security, and freedom of choice, in order that they may realize their legitimate aspirations.

He said that President Saddam Husayn's initiative of 12 August is considered a principled, firm course in this direction. He pointed out that it guarantees the establishment of a real peace in the entire region and averting the horrors and catastrophes of a destructive war which the United States continues to wage.

The Palestinian official assessed the initiative and described it as being representative of a just solution to all pending problems in the region. He said the United States should respond to this initiative instead of rejecting it.

The secretary of the Fatah Revolutionary Council condemned the imperialist and Zionist policies of spreading foreign troops throughout the holy Arab lands in Najd and Hejaz [Saudi Arabia]. He also condemned the defeatist stands of some Arab rulers, such as traitors Husni and Fahd.

During the meeting, which was attended by the ambassador of the State of Palestine in Baghdad, they reviewed the latest developments in the Arab and international arenas and the appropriate means for escalating confrontation against the conspiratorial schemes woven by the imperialist and Zionist circles against the Arab nation.

Japanese Parliamentarians Arrive 26 Sep

Leader Makes Statement

JN2609190190 Baghdad INA in Arabic
1730 GMT 26 Sep 90

[Text] Baghdad, 26 Sep (INA)—A parliamentary delegation representing the Japanese Socialist Party arrived in Baghdad today on a visit of several days to Iraq.

In a statement to INA, Matsuto Okita [name as received], Japanese parliamentarian and head of the delegation, said the delegation will meet with a number of Iraqi officials to discuss bilateral ties and developments in the Gulf region. He said his country believes in peaceful dialogue and in negotiations to resolve all problems emerging among world states.

Meet Salih

JN2809092590 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Text] National Assembly Speaker Sa'di Mahdi Salih met this morning with a parliamentary delegation representing the Japanese Democratic Socialist Party [name as heard]. The delegation is led by Deputy Motohisa Ikeda. They discussed parliamentary relations between the two countries and ways to promote them. They also reviewed the international and regional situation, especially the presence of foreign forces in the Arabian Gulf. The two sides agreed that a solution to the Gulf problem can only be achieved through peaceful means.

Mr. Ikeda stressed that leader President Saddam Husayn's initiative of 12 August is a sound and firm base for a just and lasting peace in the region. He added that direct dialogue is the best method to reach a practical solution to all problems of the region, including the Palestine question. The meeting was attended by the head of the Arab and International Relations Committee at the National Assembly and several Committee members.

Paper Reports 'Major Mutiny' in 7th Armored

PM2809100790 London AL-ZAHIRAH in Arabic 24 Sep 90 p 8

[Mahir 'Abbas report: "7th Armored Division Mutiny Against Saddam"]

[Excerpts] Saudi-Kuwaiti borders—Divisions, falling morale, and regular desertion are spreading in the various army corps after Saddam Husayn ordered field trials for a large number of the commanders and ranks of the 7th Armored Division in Kuwait, one of the most import Iraqi armored divisions.

Iraqi military intelligence is at present conducting large-scale interrogations with the aim of planting terror into the hearts of the troops after a mutiny in the 7th division created a state of chaos in all sectors of the Iraqi Army in occupied Kuwait. According to reports and statements by a number of Iraqi soldiers who fled with their weapons to Saudi Arabia, there was a major mutiny in the Iraqi 7th Armored Division against continuation of the Iraqi occupation of Kuwait. The mutiny was led by reserve soldiers recalled to serve in Kuwait after the invasion.

When the reservists joined the 7th division there were loud arguments about the price Iraq paid for dropping all the demands it had made during the war with Iran. The reservists said that they had lost their relatives and friends and that Iraq had lost valuable years for nothing other than to satisfy Saddam's foolishness.

The soldiers of the 7th Armored Division refused to obey orders to move up to the Saudi borders, and they also refused to burn houses of resistance members or to carry out death sentences in the streets. That refusal was open defiance of Saddam's regime. As a result of that, a large number of Iraqi military intelligence officers were sent to infiltrate the 7th Armored Division and arrest the leaders of the mutiny.

A fugitive soldier from that division said that many members of the division were being interrogated and tortured and that orders have been issued for the withdrawal and disbanding of some battalions of that division, with members being sent to join other corps or other battalions within the same corps. The soldier, who wished to remain anonymous, said some soldiers fled inside Iraq.

Reports from Kuwait say that the morale of Saddam's troops has hit rock bottom. [passage omitted]

AL-ZAHIRAH has learned that the additional units which entered Kuwait in recent weeks include large numbers of Kurdish soldiers who are at present being deployed on the confrontation lines close to the Saudi borders. Their morale is very low, particularly as some of them had lost members of their families in the chemical gas attacks on Halabjah.

Casualties Reported in Baghdad Food Riots

JN2709164190 Cairo AL-AHRAR in Arabic 24 Sep 90 p 1

[Text] Some 357 Iraqis have been killed or wounded in violent clashes between Iraqi security forces and citizens in Baghdad and Mosul over the past few days.

The clashes took place during demonstrations demanding that bread be made available after living conditions had worsened because of the world blockade on Iraq.

Air Force Halts Training Sorties

JN2709163390 Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD in Arabic 26 Sep 90 p 20

[Text] Paris—An informed French source told AL-ITTIHAD yesterday that Iraqi warplanes have stopped training sorties because of a shortage of tires and spare parts. The source, who was recently in the U.S. operations room in Dhahran, added that Iraqi planes do not make any sorties now in order to save spare parts. He noted that the operations room recorded between 15-20 aerial sorties two weeks ago; however, they were reduced and no sorties at all took place during the past days.

The French source said that the Iraqi forces cannot carry out any sudden military action because of continuous aerial surveillance in the Iraqi sky and the region throughout the day.

RCC Increases Purchasing Price of Wheat

JN2709124990 Baghdad AL-THAWRAH in Arabic 24 Sep 90 p 4

[Text] It has been decided to increase the prices at which wheat is purchased from the peasants and producers, and this will be the last increase in these prices now and in the future.

This was contained in a decision by the Economic Committee which has met under 'Izzat Ibrahim, Revolution Command Council [RCC] vice chairman, during which it was decided to increase the price of one metric tonne of first grade fine-grained wheat to 600 dinars from the old price of 450 dinars. The price of second grade fine-grained wheat has become 525 dinars instead 350 dinars.

As for the coarse-grained wheat the price has become 450 dinars instead of 350 dinars, and the price of third grade mixed wheat has become 480 dinars instead of the old price of 320 dinars.

Egyptians, Sudanese Reported Among Recruits

PM2709154090 Cairo AL-WAFD in Arabic 21 Sep 90 p 1

['Abd-al-Nabi 'Abd-al-Sattar report: "Iraq Supplying Armed Forces with Egyptians and Sudanese"]

[Text] AL-WAFD has learned that last Sunday [16 September] the Iraqi authorities started training a new group of people—mostly Egyptians and Sudanese—in combat skills at training camps with a view to recruiting them to the Iraqi Army within two weeks. AL-WAFD has also learned that these people will be forwarded to all sectors of the Iraqi Armed Forces deployed on the Iraqi-Saudi and Iraqi-Kuwaiti borders. The numbers of volunteers for the Iraqi popular army totals some 4 million people, including 200,000 Arab volunteers. Over the past few weeks large numbers of Jordanians, Yemenis, Sudanese, and Palestinians have arrived in Iraq to work there, now that over 700,000 Arab and foreign workers, including 300,000 Egyptians, have fled Iraq since the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait.

Paper Considers Shevardnadze UN Speech

JN2709090190 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0620 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Text] Baghdad, 27 Sep (INA)—The newspaper AL-THAWRAH appeared today with the headline "Prince Shevardnadze and the Position at the United Nations." Following is the text:

When degeneration begins, God forbid, it never stops, whether it involves public or private affairs, states or individuals, internal or external policies, or whether it involves thought, economic, or social life. And as politicians in the Soviet Union used to say, the external policy is a reflection of the internal policy. Because the internal [Soviet] policy—although we do not want to interfere in anybody's affairs—is blundering within several options and that—as its theorists believe—it can be rectified when financial resources are secured and when cooperation with the West becomes possible and effective, and because the United States is the key to this cooperation, as they believe and as arranged by the United States and accepted by the USSR, then the architects of the Soviet policy are dutybound to please the United States and be cautious not to arouse its anger for any reason. It was Shevardnadze's duty this time to please the new friends of the USSR—the shaykhs of the petrodollar, with whom the USSR is now, only now, establishing diplomatic relations.

When the United States took the conflict in the Gulf to this serious level, and when it hurriedly pushed its forces to the Gulf, it thought it possible for it to achieve one of two objectives, or both. The first objective was to deal a quick blow to selected Air Force targets to realize the dream of Israel and the dream of its allies, who resented Iraq's power for embarrassing them concerning the slogan of the liberation of Palestine and for obstructing their hopes of hegemony over the main political trends in the Arab homeland through money. The other objective was to force Iraq to retreat from its slogans. This would enable the United States to register victory for itself and for its allies, and the Iraqi retreat would emerge as a defeat for the trend Iraq represents on popular and official levels in the entire Arab homeland. Hence, the conspiracies and intrigues continue with a view to achieving all the contemptible goals. Some of these goals were assigned to the rulers of Kuwait and their partisans, but the punishment of God and history was passed on them on the day of the call [referring to 2 Aug]. None of the U.S dreams were realized, and the Arab masses rallied around the slogans of justice; they were backed by the nationalist governments. Each is supporting the other in a growing pan-Arab cohesion. Instead of Iraq shaking with fear and bending at the feet of the invaders asking forgiveness, as the lowly expected, it brandished its sword, relying on God, and prepared for the battle that God wanted to bring about an honorable peace, with the goals of justice and right achieved.

The more the United States and its allies built up their forces in the region, the firmer Iraq and all virtuous men grew; their adherence to right and their rejection of injustice and its causes intensified. Thus, the impasse of the Americans and their agents in the region deepened, and the Americans increasingly needed to use all their reserves of the undercover corrupt agents both in the region, as happened with Husni [Mubarak], and in the world. On the basis of these assessments, the United States began to renew the slogans of the confrontation and the names of those linked to it, whether individuals or forces and states. It began to apply pressure and threats, and used the temptation of the American and oil shaykhs' money. There are open bargains; we can count and identify them daily from the Western papers and the agent and suspicious newspapers in the region.

This explains Bush's attempts to make France and the French president adopt hostile stands on the level of France and the UN Security Council. Then came the Soviet Union's role, when all those evil and hostile measures failed to achieve their objectives and when it became clear that the military confrontation needed more preparations and the expansion of the circle of those who advocate this war and are ready to take part in it.

The U.S. Administration had believed that it was in a position to make its own decisions on all levels and fulfill its dream of dominating the world by dominating this region. But, when it became clear that this was not possible, the United States went about involving everyone in its slogans and objectives in order to create the impression that the measures it is taking are international and not U.S. measures that have been taken in a desperate effort to lessen the Arab reaction against the United States, its friends, and agents. This is why the United States is now enlisting the help of the Soviet Union, thinking that the USSR still has the influence it once enjoyed through its old, good reputation among the Arabs despite its erroneous or correct stands, and that the new stand expressed by Shevardnadze from the UN rostrum could weaken Arab morale.

We tell the United States that it will not be saved by the parties it is involving in the conflict arena, but by reconsidering its erroneous assessments, stopping its hostility toward Iraq, and getting its forces out of the Muslims' holy land as soon as possible. There is no other solution. Time will only further complicate its hostile presence in the region. And, it will discover day after day that a military confrontation with Iraq is not easy and the results it is seeking are unachievable, and are in fact an illusion. We also tell Prince Shevardnadze: You are only influential when you are the friend of the Arab people and nation and not of the oil shaykhs and depraved amirs. We do not care about the financial promises or arrangements made for you by the expelled Kuwaiti shaykhs, the betrayer of the two holy mosques, or the United States and its allies as a price for this despicable, hostile stand. Let Mr. Shevardnadze know that Iraq did not base its stand on anyone other than God Almighty, the sons of the Arab nation, and those honorable men who are seeking justice on the level of the Islamic nation and the world at large. Iraq did not take into consideration that this or that foreign state would be on its side.

Our advice to Shevardnadze is as follows: The finanical and economic promises made to you and those that have been fulfilled, and the resumption of diplomatic relations with this or that oil state, would not have taken place were it not for Iraq. The basic part of all these things would not have materialized now were it not for the power of Iraq, the masses of our Arab nation, and the nationalist rejectionist line on the level of the Arab states. So, do not lose the historic opportunity for your role, which you can still achieve without losing the basic part of the economic, political, and financial promises if you pursue the correct course. The correct course is not Shevardnadze's UN speech.

Paper Tells Bush To Stop 'Meddling'

JN2709195890 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0645 GMT 26 Sep 90

[Text] Baghdad, 26 Sep (INA)—The newspaper AL-THAWRAH advises Bush to halt his illegal meddling in Iraq's internal affairs, and to understand quite well that usurped Kuwait has returned to its people to be part of the homeland, Iraq, by an irrevocable decision that will not be reversed under any circumstances and conditions.

The paper says that U.S. President Bush poked his nose into a purely Iraqi internal affair when he demanded Iraqi withdrawal. It notes the announcement made by His Excellency President leader Saddam Husayn, Iraq's symbol and its historic leader, to the effect that Kuwait is Iraqi territory and that it will not be ceded, even if we have to fight for 1,000 years. The paper adds that it would be more useful for Bush to preoccupy himself with something else, to dream of some other cause, and to abandon this impossible dream.

The paper says that the security and stability of the Gulf region will not be realized as long as U.S. and foreign troops remain in the region, and as long as the United States remains determined to intervene militarily, and to "create a new security structure in the region."

AL-THAWRAH adds: Our Arab people categorically reject any foreign presence on their lands, and view this presence as a major cause for the outbreak of war. Our people will continue to bear arms, and remain determined to expel the last foreign soldier from the holy Arab lands.

The paper refers to Bush's exposed and conflicting contradictions, and says that Bush shamelessly lied when he said that "the mission that the United States is performing arises from its determination to stand, along with other states, against aggression and to safeguard the sovereignty of all states," because the entire world is well aware that the Bush administration applied all sorts of pressure, blackmail, and temptation to push the United State's allies, who showed reluctance to join the U.S. plans for invasion and aggression. The paper adds: These pressures were aimed at making them join this plan, and participate in the dirty task whose accomplishment is sought by this scheme. The pressure that the United States applied on Japan and the FRG to make them increase their contributions to the U.S. invasion of the region are known to all. Bush is the man who forced the feet of the "allied" states to be dragged as if they were "small dogs" behind the United States in order to involve them in aggression against the Arab nation.

The paper wonders why the United States deals with the anti-Iraq UN Security Council resolution in a manner that is completely different from the way it has tackled the Council resolutions on the Arab-Zionist conflict. It adds: Did Mr. Bush forget that the United States used the veto shortly before 2 August to defeat a draft UN Security Council resolution calling for the dispatch of three observers to the occupied Arab territories to prepare a report on the Zionist oppressive measures? Does not this duplicitous handling of UN resolutions show that the United States is demonstrating a double standard?

The paper goes on to say: The occupation of Arab oil wells, as well as controlling oil policy and prices on the one hand, and safeguarding the security of the Zionist entity on the other, are two major objectives of the U.S. invasion of the Arabian Gulf and Arabian Peninsula. However, the U.S. President will discover, if he invades Iraq, that oil, its lands, and the Zionist entity will be in a different situation from their current one. This is an important fact, which Bush must be well aware of before it is too late.

AL-THAWRAH says that the United States has gone too far in its arrogance and in its dangerous aggression scheme that seeks to settle scores with the Arab nation, to strike at the general resurgence it has launched, and to abort its cultural plan embodied by Iraq, the nation's vanguard and strong bastion. The paper adds: However, Iraq, which firmly and sincerely seeks peace, is capable of confronting and crushing American aggression. Iraq is powerful and invincible. It enjoys the support of the Arab and Islamic masses. It is alert and highly prepared to face every eventuality and to defeat all the evil and tyrants. We will triumph.

Paper Vows Widespread Response to Aggression

JN2809062690 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0550 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] Baghdad, 28 Sep (INA)—The newspaper AL-JUMHURIYAH has stressed that Iraq will not make itself the only arena for the battle against the enemies, but will take the battle to more than one place.

In an editorial titled "A Dark Future for the Invasion Forces," the newspaper says the fighting arenas would be set and the fires would eat all oil wells, as well as the Zionist entity and the U.S. agents in the region, with all their names and faces.

It adds that U.S. and Western forces, which have occupied the sacred lands, will not be able to twist Iraq's will and that the U.S. Administration itself knows exactly the gravity of the situation in which it has placed itself by its invasion of the Arabian Peninsula.

It explains that the experience of contemporary history confirms that if people have their free will, no power on earth, regardless of its tyranny and might, can defeat them.

AL-JUMHURIYAH notes that the invaders, their treacherous agents, and the Zionists, who are fanning the fire to secure the continuity of their aggressive presence on the Arab land, will bear the responsibility for the coming fire.

It says: While standing at the forefront of the Arab nation and the Muslim world to kick out the foreign occupation forces from our sacred lands and to demand the Palestinian peoples's legitimate rights to their territories, we in Iraq are prepared to make the greatest sacrifices for the principles we believe in and in order not to submit to U.S. imperialist hegemony.

AL-JUMHURIYAH concludes its editorial by saying: We will not feel at ease unless the occupiers leave and unless our nation achieves its legitimate rights in freedom, dignity, and independence.

Commentary Warns U.S. Against Underestimation

LD2609221390 Baghdad International Source in English 2000 GMT 26 Sep 90

[Station commentary]

[Text] With the increase of the United States and Western military buildup in the Arab Gulf the crescendo [as heard] center of anti-Iraqi military threat has been escalating in recent days. Senior United States military and civilian officials have been threatening various types of military action against Iraq, while some have been engaged in drawing up what they termed as contingency plans to launch four-branch ground attacks to invade Iraq. Others are speaking of blitzkrieg air attacks and intensive air raids on Iraqi major cities and population centers. With such a hectic and irrational drive against Iraq, these officials appear to consider this Arab country as a small backward state which can be easily (?tamed) and swiftly occupied through the present build-up in the Gulf.

Such an assumption is due to the spirit of sheer shallow-mindedness on the part of officials of a superpower like the United States. It would be only a tragic state of affairs to see that top American officials are so misinformed and so inaccurate as to consider Iraq an easy bite to chew.

Ironically, it was the Western media that started a ferocious anti-Iraqi drive early this year, accusing Baghdad of attempting to manufacture a nuclear bomb. The U.S. and Western governments and their media turned everything upside-down in the anti-Iraq drive to tell their public opinion that Iraq is (?again) a military power working to manufacture the Doomsday gun, now possessing a huge stockpile of chemical weapons and long-range missiles which can carry chemical warheads.

After such an intensive drive, wouldn't it be strange for the United States strategists to take Iraq for a small and powerless country, which can be easily crushed? Where the truth is in all the contradictory American conclusions concerning Iraq is yet a matter to be found out, but one can safely ignore that Iraq may be everything but an easy prey.

The U.S. state officials and President George Bush in the forefront would be committing a war crime, repeat a war crime, if they ignore the fact that Iraq cannot be broken and defeated. They will become committing [as heard] a high treason against their own country and people if they underestimate the military might of Iraq and ignite a war in the Gulf region.

To assume that the United States is capable of launching a successive [as heard] and blitzkrieg attack on Iraq is both a childish and irresponsible assumption which will bring an inevitable catastrophe upon the American population before any other people. After eight long years of war, the war-hardened Iraqis have come out as efficient soldiers, who know how to fight and how to use the arms properly under various circumstances and against various enemies.

Iraq knows how and has the means to make of any possible conflict in the Arab Gulf a protracted war with a heavy daily casualty for the United States. Baghdad has an ally with limitless potential. It has all the rank and file Arab grassroots political parties and forces and can mobilize thousands of volunteer commandos, able to shift the war away from the Gulf and into the cities and capitals of the aggressors.

If war erupts, Iraq is determined to deprive Americans and Europeans who think themselves far away from the hot frontline of a quiet night's sleep. It can make noise with the thunder of explosions every day going off close to their doors and no billions of dollars they have received from the oil-rich [words indistinct] shaykhs of the Gulf can ensure for them a tranquil and happy sleep.

Iraqi officials have been repeatedly warning the U.S. and other Western powers against any attack and have, on the other hand, said that Baghdad will not fire the first shot. Such warnings, one has to say, are not meant for propaganda purposes. It is no secret that if attacked, Iraq has enough means and potentialities to crush all those who take part in such an aggression. It has enough firepower to deal such heavy blows at the world's most powerful country as would make it stumble and fall in a humiliating defeat that would have ages-old effects on generations to comee.

The U.S. should not be misled by an illusive sense of over-confidence as a powerful country, simply because Iraq has enough potential to teach Washington a lesson in how a third world country can crush a superpower. Iraq is capable of driving the United States into the back row of world countries if Washington started its aggression and attacked the Arab country. The U.S. Administration must know and it is our duty and obligation towards the humanity to warn that it cannot attack Iraq without the corpses of tens of thousands of its young boys being sent home, wrapped in the Stars and Stripes, and without its economy being shattered into pieces.

This is a warning, not propaganda, and we feel duty-bound to speak of the real repercussions of a possible United States-led war imposed on Iraq.

Paper Says Air Embargo 'Step Toward Explosion'

JN2709094590 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0800 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Text] Baghdad, 27 Sep (INA)—The newspaper AL-THAWRAH has regretted the fact that the Security Council has abandoned the foundations on which it was established and that it is now being used as an instrument to implement the desires of the United States and its evil, aggressive tendencies.

Commenting on the Security Council resolution imposing an air embargo on Iraq, the paper says no longer will we be surprised or astonished by any resolution adopted by the Council, no matter how inhuman, ruthless, and unjust this resolution may be, and no matter how at odds with international conventions and time-honored world norms and traditions.

The paper describes the air embargo as a practical U.S. step toward explosion and aggression against Iraq. It is a step showing how far the White House controls the Security Council and its mechanism, the paper says.

AL-THAWRAH warns: U.S. control over the Security Council is one of the most serious phenomena threatening the future of the world organization and international relations. It means that the United States has not only crowned itself as a judge, passing sentences on the world nations, but has also turned into a policeman to enforce those sentences by brute force.

Resolution 670, says the paper, clearly indicates that the United States and those dragged behind it are constantly escalating tension and pushing things toward the abyss and war. If the situation explodes, it adds, Israel—which they came to protect—will not remain as it stands now, and the oil—which they invaded the region to control—will be reduced to ashes.

Paper Issues Warning on 'Protracted War'

JN2609154190 Baghdad INA in English 1400 GMT 26 Sep 90

[Text] Baghdad, Sep. 26, INA—THE BAGHDAD OBSERVER said here today to assume that the U.S. is capable of launching a successive and blitzkrieg attack on Iraq is both a childish and irresponsible assumption which will bring an inevitable catastrophe upon the American population before any other people. After eight long years of war, the war-hardened Iraqis have come out as efficient soldiers who know how to fight and how to use the arms properly under various circumstances and against various enemies. Iraq knows how, and has the means, to make of any possible conflict in the Arab Gulf a protracted war with a heavy daily casualty for the United States. [sentence as received]

It pointed out that Baghdad has an ally with limitless potentials. It has all the rank-and-file Arab grass-root political parties and forces, and can mobilise thousands of volunteer commanders able to shift the war far away from the Gulf and into the cities and capitals of the aggressors.

The daily added if war erupts, Iraq is determined to deprive Americans and Europeans who think themselves far away from the hot frontlines, of the quiet night sleep. It can make them live with the thunder explosions every day going off close of their doors, and no billions of dollars they have received from the oil-rich harem maniac sheikhs of the Gulf can ensure for them a tranquil and happy sleep. [sentence as received]

Iraqi officials have been repeatedly warning the U.S. and other Western powers against any attack, and have, on the other hand, said that Baghdad will not fire the first shot. Such warnings, one has to say, are not meant for propaganda purposes. It is no secret that if attacked, Iraq has enough means and potentialities to crush all those who take part in such an aggression, it said.

The daily further added it has enough firepower to deal such heavy blows at the world's most powerful country as would make it stumble and fall in a humiliating defeat that would have ages-old effects on generations to come. The U.S should not be misled by an illusive sense of overconfidence as a powerful country, simply because Iraq has enough potential to teach Washington a lesson in how a Third World country can crush a superpower.

Iraq is capable of driving the U.S into the back-row of world countries if Washington started its aggression and attacked the Arab country. The U.S. Administration must know, and it is our duty and obligation towards humanity to warn—that it cannot attack Iraq without the corpses of tens of thousands of its young boys being sent home wrapped in the Stars and Stripes and without its economy being shattered into pieces. This is a warning, not propaganda, and we feel duty-bound to speak of the real repercussions of a possible U.S-led war imposed on Iraq, the daily stressed.

Moda'i Comments on U.S. Trip, Histadrut

TA2809055790 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] Finance Minister Yitzhaq Moda'i says he did not ask for additional aid during his just completed trip to the United States. Moda'i returned early this morning to Israel. Upon his arrival he spoke to reporter Le'a Zinder:

[Begin recording] [Moda'i] I held discussions on many subjects relating to the relationship between the United States and Israel, and by and large I think the results are positive.

[Zinder] We understand that the $400 million housing guarantee has not yet been settled. Are you worried that the Americans are creating so many conditions regarding giving us this housing guarantee, while at the same time they are so generous with the economic support they give to countries like Egypt, for example?

[Moda'i] I did not deal directly with the guarantees. This was the task of our foreign minister, Mr. Levi, and indeed, he met with Secretary Baker on this issue, or mainly on this issue. I was assured by his deputy and by senior members of Congress that Secretary Baker will try very hard to find a way to implement these guarantees; I'm hopeful that by today or by next Monday a solution will be found.

[Zinder] And on the larger issue of U.S. aid that we will no doubt expect more of in the future in order to absorb Soviet immigrants?

[Moda'i] I did not raise any specific requests. I didn't think the time was appropriate. They don't have a budget as yet, they don't know the outcome of the Kuwait affair, they don't know how events will develop in the future. I think they are concentrating now on their own problems and it is not the appropriate time for Israel to present its problems. One thing I was very happy to hear from all of the leading members of the administration and the Congress is that they are fully committed to the security and to the well-being of the State of Israel—such a statement is not exactly cash but it's like signing a check.

[Zinder] While you were in the United States, you no doubt heard the comment of Mr. Haberfeld, the chairman of the Trade Union Department in the Histadrut, who said that he will fight the government's economic program on land, at sea, and in the air, and he is in fact threatening to close down the country. What is your reaction?

[Moda'i] Shame, I think, to use such expressions towards one's country. What does he mean by closing the country? Who does he think he is, anyhow? But regarding the economic plan approved by the government, I've heard noises, but I still don't know what they don't like about this plan. This plan was designed in the first place to help the people of the State of Israel and the new arrivals, in other words, mainly workers who Mr. Haberfeld is supposed to represent. So I don't know what the big cry is all about. [end recording]

Russian Parliament Seeks Ties With Knesset

TA2809054990 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] The parliament of Russia, the largest republic in the Soviet Union, has approached the Knesset with a proposal to establish direct relations. Vladimir Lukin, chairman of the Russian Parliament, has relayed a message to Knesset Member [MK] Eliyahu Ben-Elisar proposing to set up working relations similar to the Knesset's ties with the two houses of Congress in Washington. The message was relayed by Dr. Nimrod Novik, political adviser of former Prime Minister Shim'on Peres, who visited Moscow last week.

MK Ben-Elisar told our correspondent Gid'on Remez that the request would be discussed by the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee, as well as with the prime minister and the foreign minister. In his opinion, such relations would have to be developed cautiously and gradually so as not to undermine the accomplishments made to date with the Soviet central government.

Interviewed by telephone from Moscow, Lukin said he does not rule out the possibility that a gradual development of relations could pave the way for a visit to Israel by Russian President Boris Yeltsin.

1990 Trade Increase With EC Noted

TA2809100290 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 28 Sep 90 p 1

[Report by Dorit Iluz, economic correspondent in Jerusalem]

[Text] Israel's exports to the EC in the first six months of 1990 totaled $2.05 billion, a 10 percent increase over the same period last year. Exports to the EC constitute over one-third of Israel's total exports.

Imports from the EC in the first six months of 1990 totaled $3.6 billion, a 7.5 percent increase over the same period last year. Imports from the EC constitute approximately 50 percent of Israel's total imports.

Traffic in Territories To Cease for Yom Kippur

TA2709171990 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1700 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Text] This is an announcement on behalf of the IDF [Israel Defense Forces] spokesman: All traffic to and from Judaea, Samaria, and the Gaza Strip will cease on the eve of Yom Kippur.

Traffic to and from Judaea and Samaria will be forbidden from 1500 [1300 GMT] on Friday, 28 September, until the end of Yom Kippur at 2000 on 29 September.

Traffic to and from the Gaza Strip will be halted from 1200, 28 September, until the end of Yom Kippur at 1800.

Update on 27 Sep Incidents in Territories

TA2809095890 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 28 Sep 90 p 20

[Report by Matthew Seriphs and Jon Immanuel]

[Excerpts] Two Palestinians were killed by masked youths yesterday in separate incidents in the southern Gaza Strip, police sources said.

Masked youths shot and killed a 55-year-old man inside a mosque in Rafah's Shabura camp in the afternoon for suspected cooperation with Israel, Palestinians said. Mustafa Abu-Taha, a Rafah resident, died immediately from bullet wounds to the head and chest, they said.

A police spokesman confirmed the death and said Abu-Taha's son, Ihab, 20, was seriously wounded in the shooting. He said the motive for the killing was not known and that the father's body was taken away by police for forensic examination.

The spokesman said a second man was killed by masked youths in 'Abasan al-Izghira. He said the youths took Ahmad Asfur, 30, from his house in the village and tied him to a tree in an orchard, where they shot him in the chest. The spokesman said the reason for the killing was still unclear.

Palestinians said Asfur was only slightly injured after being beaten by unknown persons and that he was being treated in al-Nasir Hospital in Khan Yunus.

They said one was injured and four arrested in clashes resulting from a demonstration in Khan Yunus. The IDF [Israel Defense Forces] said a 16-year-old youth was slightly wounded when he threw a stone at a patrol south of Khan Yunus causing the patrol commander to open fire. [passage omitted]

In an address arranged by Peace Now in Jerusalem Wednesday night, leading Palestinian activist Faysal al-Husayni reiterated that the PLO does not support the Iraqi occupation of Kuwait, but considered that the Palestinians' best interests were served by supporting Saddam Husayn's initiative of August 13 linking a solution of the Gulf crisis with the Palestinian issue.

Al-Husayni, in an address before Palestinian trade unionists in East Jerusalem yesterday, said his views had been distorted in the media. At the meeting, called to announce that Palestinian Ba'thists were switching their support from Syria to Iraq, al- Husayni condemned the mob killing of soldier Amnon Pomerantz in Gaza eight days ago. He compared it to the killing last month of an Arab, 'Izzat Halhala, who stumbled into a Jewish riot in a Jerusalem neighborhood after the killing of two Jerusalem youths.

Palestinian sources reported that a 15-year-old girl, Maysa Mansur, was struck in the face by fragments of a bullet after youths threw stones at a Border Police post in Qalqilyah Wednesday night. Mansur was taken to the Unrwa [UN Relief and Works Agency] hospital in Qalqilyah, where she was reported by a nurse there yesterday to be in good condition. The IDF said she was struck by a rubber bullet.

Palestinian sources said Isar Sabih, 32, was beaten with sticks by masked men in Qalqilyah yesterday. They accused him of being an informer. Sabih was taken to the UNRWA hospital, where he was reported in good condition.

'Abd-al-Fatah Hamil, considered a leading PLO activist from the Ramallah area, was reported to be on the 10th day of a hunger strike in the Russian Compound lockup in Jerusalem to protest against his solitary confinement for a month without charges being made against him

In Tulkarm, troops uprooted 23 olive trees and in 'Awarta, south of Nabulus, 200 trees, after stones were thrown at traffic from the road, Palestinian sources said. Reports from 'Awarta that the Israeli authorities confiscated 3,000 dunams of land were denied by military sources.

Palestinian sources reported the arrest of 10 people in Burin, south of Nabulus, eight in 'Awarta, and two in Sarrah, west of Nabulus yesterday. [passage omitted]

[Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew at 0500 GMT on 28 September adds that "this morning the IDF imposed curfews on the refugee camps of Jabalyah, al-Nusayrat, al-Mughazi, and Dayr al-Balah in the Gaza Strip; the curfew on the al-Burayj refugee camp continues. Our correspondent Arye Gus reports that the security forces last night demolished the house of a local inhabitant who was a Fatah member in Bayt Hanun, in the northern part of the Gaza Strip. The man is suspected of having taken part in detonating an explosive charge against an IDF convoy three months ago."]

UN Urged To Prevent Collective Punishment

TA2709171590 Jerusalem AL-SHA'B in Arabic 27 Sep 90 pp 1, 11

[Editorial: "Return to the Deportation Policy"]

[Text] The new Israeli Government has once again begun implementing the policy of deportation and collective punishment against the occupied territories' residents in the wake of the murder of the Israeli soldier last Thursday at al-Burayj refugee camp in the Gaza Strip. The Israeli authorities used this incident as a pretext to carry out new policies and measures against defenseless residents at a time when the eyes of the entire world are focused on the Arabian Gulf and when the UN Security Council and all its affiliated agencies are a pawn in the hands of the United States, which has commissioned that council to serve its interests, designs, and goals in the Gulf region.

Perhaps one who follows the statements of Israeli officials and the commentaries published in the Israeli press these days can predict the alarming scope of the anticipated Israeli measures against the residents of the occupied territories. The cries for revenge are rising from a considerable number of Israeli leaders, while many Israeli newspapers have called for the application of a policy of collective punishment against the residents. Israeli officials themselves have admitted that this same policy has failed to achieve its objectives.

While we view with utmost gravity the recent cries in the Israeli streets for revenge against the residents of the occupied territories, we call on the United Nations to shoulder its humanitarian responsibilities, be consistent with its principles, abandon its selective policy in imposing sanctions against states violating international laws and norms, and prevent the implementation of the policy of deportation and collective punishment against the residents of the occupied territories.

New Trends in Intifadah, PLO Analyzed

TA2709122290 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 27 Sep 90 p 8

[Article by Pinhas 'Inbari: "A Violent Intifadah"]

[Text] The statement that the murder of the IDF [Israel Defense Forces] soldier in the al-Burayj refugee camp marks a change in the intifadah is grossly inaccurate. The ideology of the intifadah never sanctioned such activity. On the contrary, during the peak of the intifadah there were similar cases in which IDF soldiers found themselves stuck, with their vehicles, in turbulent villages such as Idnah in the Hebron hills or Sanur in Samaria. The demonstrators allowed the soldiers to leave their car and escape, and only then set the empty vehicle on fire.

To the extent possible, the intifadah preached nonviolence and advocated no bloodshed by the Palestinians. It regarded the low incidence of lethal attacks on IDF troops as an achievement, even in the face of the steep rise in the number of intifadah casualties. This was what set the intifadah apart from the "armed struggle" that preceded it, and it won the Palestinians significant victories in the battle for world public support and helped them convert their national struggle into a political process. The main outlet for violence permitted by the intifadah as per its leaflets was stone throwings and, as a compromise with the approach that favored more extreme measures, hurling Molotov cocktails. The rock, not the gun, became the symbol of the Palestinian struggle.

That type of intifadah failed, however. The murder of the IDF soldier and the way in which he met his death is not a continuation or a revival of the old intifadah, but a milestone in a new, violent, and brutal type of Palestinian struggle which no longer bothers to preserve the fragile channels of communication with Israeli circles or cares to promote the political process. It organizes for an all-out campaign "for it all." New conditions for the revival of Palestinian terrorism are also being created; Abu-al-'Abbas' [Muhammad 'Abbas] operation and 'Arafat's refusal to condemn it integrate well into the new atmosphere prevailing among the frustrated Palestinians. They tried to promote a political process with Israel and adapted their national struggle to the needs of the peace process, but instead of a dialogue in Cairo they received a rising tide of new immigrants and "a government that supports the notion of transfer."

It should be emphasized that the official PLO spokesmen are careful to point out that the PLO still adheres to its peace initiative. Thus, for example, Dr. Nabil Sha'th, 'Arafat's aide, told Knesset Member Tamar Gozansky that the PLO has not budged one bit from its well-known position regarding a solution that calls for two nations, and that it recognizes Israel on the basis of Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338.

There is no doubt that broad PLO circles, among them Nabil Sha'th, are unhappy with the changing moods among the Palestinians, including the PLO's position on the Kuwaiti crisis. A review of intifadah leaflets, however, reveals changing positions—an outcome of the changing times. Those who thought that the Palestinians would wait forever for "a positive reply to Baker" were wrong. The constraints camp won the current round, both in Israel and among them.

There are many reasons why 'Arafat stood by Saddam Husayn. One of them was his inability to respond to the charges made by the radical wing in his camp that "the humiliating chain" of concessions "for nothing" was not meant to promote a political process but to annihilate the PLO through political methods. According to that conception, the intifadah's ideology of nonviolence constituted an important component of the policy of "concessions." Abu-al-'Abbas openly stated as much a short time after the outbreak of the intifadah, once the direction the PLO wanted it to take became clear.

Now the circumstances have changed, the trends have changed, the intifadah pamphlets use a different language, and it is impossible to comprehend the new intifadah tendencies without understanding the PLO's role in the Kuwaiti crisis.

'Arafat's objective now is no longer to launch a dialogue in Cairo but to place the Palestinians in Saddam Husayn's camp and foil the intention of the Cairo-Riyadh-Damascus axis to set up a new PLO. The difference between Saddam Husayn and Husni Mubarak, from the Palestinians' point of view, is that the latter coaxed them into making concessions to Israel and the United States in order to launch a political process with Israel, while Saddam nixed that approach, arguing that concessions would not help and that Israel can only be made to budge from its inflexibility by applying pressure on it forcibly. His credibility grew the moment he linked a settlement of the Gulf problems to the Lebanese issue and the Palestinian conflict—which he did immediately after invading Kuwait. The Cairo axis rejected that position, as naturally did Washington and Jerusalem—all of which contributed to boosting Saddam's prestige even more.

The al-Burayj incidents and Israel's firm reaction are helping the Baghdad axis tie the Kuwaiti crisis to the Palestinian problem because they bring the latter back into the limelight even as the noose around Iraq grows tighter. Thus, Bassam Abu-Sharif's quick response to the al-Burayj events not only offers the necessary PLO reaction to such a broad-scale crisis in the territories, but also expresses a desire to rejuvenate the intifadah precisely as the Palestinian efforts to link the Kuwaiti crisis to the Palestinian problem have reached their peak. Right now it is not as important for the PLO to preserve the intifadah's nonviolent character as it is for the organization to bring the Israeli occupation back to the front-page headlines to draw parallels between it and the occupation of Kuwait. The political leadership in the territories is embroiled in a crisis because the path of a dialogue with the Israelis has proved worthless and because the Israeli left wing has not made a secret of its dismay with the Palestinian positions and has consequently used language which the East Jerusalem political echelon finds disadvantageous. That is why the PLO is currently wooing the various violent groups which, heretofore, had consistently opposed the intifadah leadership's known political path. Besides, as part of the changes in PLO positions, the effort to impose discipline among the violent groups has ceased; furthermore, the PLO has begun to encourage them because only their way can now bring the Palestinian problem back to world awareness.

Yet one of the main reasons for the outbreak of Palestinian violence is the PLO leaders' fear of the efforts the Cairo-Riyadh-Damascus axis was making to establish a rival PLO to replace the old organization.

Saudi Arabia's dismay over the Palestinian positions has already had practical expressions: The economic difficulties the PLO has been suffering due to the cutoff of Saudi aid can already be felt. Thus, for example, renovation work at al-Aqsa Mosque has been halted midway. Although the Waqf claims that the Italian construction company's performance was substandard, everyone knows who foots the bill for the renovation work and why additional money will not be coming. Winter is just around the corner, and the faithful in the holy mosque might have to wade in puddles of mud.

The "new PLO" will reflect the Cairo-Riyadh-Damascus pact, and this has already been manifested in the leaflets distributed in the territories. 'Arafat has instructed his associates to stop issuing declarations, because it was his inner circles that raised questions about his path; the Palestinian radio station broadcasting from Cairo this week already criticized the PLO leadership. If that is the case, then the pragmatic political circles close to 'Arafat may find themselves pitted against him if the processes that have begun were to gain momentum. They will be supported by the groups that back Saudi Arabia, such as Hamas [Islamic Resistance Movement] or significant parts thereof. The left-wing component will be provided by Ahmad Jibril, who remains faithful to Syria even though Hawatimah and Habash have turned to Baghdad.

The latest Hamas leaflet still expresses fealty to the Arab consensus against U.S. involvement in the conflict. Although its position is worded in the same tough language, it does not support Saddam Husayn, and expresses sympathy toward the Kuwaitis' plight. Ahmad Jibril adopted a similar line in the 19 September leaflet issued by "the Victims of the Galilee," in which, appropriately for such a revolutionary group, the style is radical and spares no words of contempt for those who gave their nodding approval to the U.S. invaders. Still there are no words of support for Saddam Husayn, and as in the Hamas leaflet, there is not a single mention of Iraq. The impression is that Hamas and Ahmad Jibril are currently trying to find pathways to Cairo. Their difficulties are very apparent from the phrasing of their pamphlets. Hamas and the Unified National Command of the Uprising consider themselves popular movements well tuned to the people's sentiments—and those are with Saddam Husayn. A deterioration in the situation in the territories will block their advance toward Cairo because the Palestinian people will demand unity to oppose Israel, not splits against the backdrop of the arguments within the Arab world.

This is the background against which the political leadership in the territories tried to prove to the PLO "on the outside" that it is still vigorous and tried to achieve something the PLO had thus far failed to obtain: an agreement with Hamas. Such an agreement arrests the continued gearing of Hamas toward Egypt, and Fatah supporters were prepared to give Hamas a lot to reach that agreement. The accord was signed and disseminated about a week ago. The background for it was the falling out between Hamas and Fatah in the refugee camps. The al-Burayj refugee camp made headlines following the murder of the IDF soldier, but that camp and adjacent ones have long been the site of extremely violent feuds between Hamas' modesty squads and Fatah's military police. When that struggle reached a boiling point in the Tulkarm refugee camp, Faysal al-Husayni from East Jerusalem stepped in. He arrived in Tulkarm accompanied by two Hamas leaders: Shaykh Hamid al-Bitawi from Tulkarm, and Shaykh Sa'id Bilal from Nabulus. Fatah's welcoming ceremony for those individuals was not too warm or encouraging, but a channel of communication was opened nonetheless. It continued via the Fatah offices in Amman and after major concessions to Hamas an agreement was signed on 19 September.

The agreement is heavily loaded with Hamas cliches, such as the right of every group to stick to its positions. This constitutes an erosion of the formula that the PLO is the sole legitimate representative, as Hamas is not a member of the PLO. The main concession, however, lies in the presentation of Hamas as the leading force in the territories, which is stressed over and over again by Hamas' name always appearing before Fatah's throughout the document. Fatah was not enamored of this phraseology, and two days later issued an "amended" version, probably without having first obtained Hamas' consent. The new version includes the "amendment" that puts Fatah's name before Hamas'.

So Fatah no longer swears by the rock as the intifadah's weapon, having accepted Hamas' position that the struggle should be conducted "using all means." Instead of the Unified National Command of the Uprising there will be a joint Fatah-Hamas committee with regional subcommittees akin to the intifadah committees. The two movements' leaflets will be coordinated and graffiti formulated jointly by both movements have already appeared this week in East Jerusalem.

The very appearance of the "amended" leaflet does not bode well. Indeed, one day after its publication, a group of masked individuals identified with Fatah attacked Dr. Nihad al-Masri, a pediatrician who is considered a Hamas leader, in his Nabulus clinic, wounding him. Fatah's political leadership was dealt a slap in the face. The barrage of condemnations by persons and organizations affiliated with Fatah could have given rise to the thought that the attack was a one-time affair. But then a group of Nabulus youth came out with an announcement that justified the assault: In its 25 September leaflet, the "al-'Asifah Forces" detailed a long list of attacks and cases of harassment by Hamas people that necessitated reaction to preserve Fatah's honor. They noted with extreme bitterness that a mere few hours after Hamas people distributed the leaflet that carried the "accord" with Fatah, they rushed to attack a Fatah member in the Nabulus casbah.

At the same time, the PLO will not be redeemed by agreements with Hamas, so the only course of action it can now take is to obtain Muslim support from the Islamic Jihad, whose military operations in Gaza paved the way for the intifadah. If Fatah was prepared to reach an agreement with Hamas on the phrase "use of all means," then the Islamic Jihad's military course of action is well known. These are distinctly terrorist acts, such as the attack on the bus near Ismailia or the burning of the Karmel forests. Those who place all their eggs in the PLO II's basket are bound to be disappointed: First, the Palestinians faithfully follow Yasir 'Arafat; second, one can hardly expect gratification from the union of Ahmad Jibril and Hamas. It is not only the Palestinians who lost from the failure of the intifadah; we did, too.

Yafo Woman Charged With Spying for PLO

TA2709194490 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Text] In the Lod military court, charges were brought against Nadia Muhammad Mahamid, a 23-year-old Yafo woman, for spying on behalf of the PLO. According to the charge sheet, Mahamid received $500 from a PLO representative in Egypt, which she was supposed to give to a Druze Army officer in exchange for sensitive information.

The charge sheet also said Mahamid mailed her ringleaders newspaper articles from the daily HA'ARETZ after the abortive coastal terror attack earlier this year.

Amman Reacts to Saudi Expulsion of Officials

Riyadh Envoy Recalled in Protest

JN2509202090 Amman Jordan Television Network in Arabic 2005 GMT 25 Sep 90

[Text] An official Foreign Ministry source has stated that the Saudi Foreign Ministry has informed the Jordanian ambassador in Riyadh of its desire to close the office of the Jordanian military attache there. It also asked the ambassador to reduce the number of employees at the embassy in Riyadh and at the General Consulate in Jeddah to four employees in each, in addition to the ambassador in Riyadh and the general consul in Jeddah. In the wake of this, the Jordanian Government decided to recall its ambassador in Riyadh in protest at this unjustifiable measure.

No Retaliation Planned

JN2709072090 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 27-28 Sep 90 p 1

[Report by Maryam M. Shahin]

[Text] Amman—The recalling of the Jordanian ambassador from Saudi Arabia does not mean a break in diplomatic relations with Riyadh, and Amman does not plan to expel any Saudi diplomats, senior officials said Wednesday [26 September].

"We have long and close relations with Saudi Arabia," Information Minister Ibrahim 'Izz-al-Din said." At this point we have different points of view on how best to deal with the current situation. We also believe that we have been helping in creating an Arab solution to the (Gulf crisis) and that our position has not been completely understood or accepted in many corners of the world."

The information minister said that Jordan had no plans to ask any Saudi diplomats to leave Jordan.

Foreign Ministry Secretary-General Mu'tasim al-Balbaysi said the recalling of the Jordanian ambassador from Saudi Arabia did not tantamount to breaking of diplomatic relations but that the move came in protest against the closure of the office of the military attache and the reduction in the number of Jordanian foreign service officials in Saudi Arabia.

"The Saudi move cannot be justified," al-Balbaysi told the Jordan Times. Among the people asked to leave included the labour and cultural attaches, he said.

The number of staff, including diplomats, at the embassy in Riyadh was reduced from nine to three, he said. In Jeddah the number was reduced to one.

The exact number of people, including diplomats, who left Riyadh or are expected to leave was not known. Some reports spoke of as many as 20 people.

The Saudi move to expel Jordanian diplomats was coupled with a cut off in oil supplies to Jordan. Although the Saudi government said the decision was based on commercial considerations after Jordan failed to pay what Riyadh saw as outstanding dues of $46 million—while Jordan said the dues were only $6 million—it is seen as prompted by Saudi anger against pro-Iraq sympathies in Jordan.

Senate Statement on Crisis, Saudi Oil Policy

JN2509100690 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 25 Sep 90 pp 1, 12

["Text" of statement issued by the Emergency Committee of the Senate in Amman on 24 September]

[Text] As a result of the continuous meetings held to follow up on the Gulf crisis and due to the daily repercussions and escalations that accompany it, the Jordanian Senate's Emergency Committee affirms the following:

First, support for His Majesty King Husayn in his pioneering and valiant pan-Arab stand expressed in the message of his majesty, God protect him, to the American people. The contents of that message show Jordan's clear, frank, and legitimate stand toward the dangers entailed by this crisis to the vital interests of the peoples of the region and the world. The message also explains in the clearest terms the pan-Arab and national interests which are threatened by selfish and short-sighted policies, especially as regards the desire of some who insist on going beyond the principles of justice and fairness when dealing with this crisis and ignoring the need for solving it within its Arab framework away from the language of force and from returning the region to the state of hegemony and international polarization. The committee also supports his majesty's responsible and loyal call to Arabs, Muslims, and the international community to adhere to the principles of justice and equality in solving the Gulf crisis and the other explosive crises in the region, in Palestine and in Lebanon, by applying the same standards and principles, as an introduction to the realization of comprehensive and just peace in the region.

Second, condemnation of the military escalation and the language of force in dealing with this crisis, as well as rejection of blocking the way before a peaceful solution of this crisis which will avert catastrophe from the world, a catastrophe that is no less dangerous than a world war threatening the Gulf region, the Arab homeland, and the whole world with unlimited harm. The cooperation of the international community is required to avert such a war.

The committee proudly appreciates what his majesty said regarding the importance of studying these dangers, in addition to his comprehensive and balanced explanation of the soundness of the Jordanian stand and its adherence to the causes of its nation, peace, and security in this strategic region, as well as his true efforts to avert the danger of war, death, and destruction from Arab ranks and the world.

Third, condemnation of the policies of tightening the noose around fraternal Iraq and attempting to strangle its people.

These inhumane measures have reached the extent of banning the importation of food and medicine for its children, women, and elderly by any means, which contradicts the principles of international law and human rights. It also reduces the possibilities for solving the issue peacefully in the interest of all nations on this earth.

Fourth, expressing great regret over the stand taken by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in cutting off oil supplies to Jordan and the negative effects resulting from this stand. The committee believes that the Saudi Government should not go so far as to inflict harm on the Jordanian people and their economy through this step it has taken.

Fifth, entrenching the Arab draft solution and following up contacts with all Arab countries to gain their cooperation in averting the dangers resulting from the split in Arab ranks. It considers that, in the final analysis, that is the soundest way for solving this crisis.

Sixth, considering with great concern what is happening in the Palestinian arena, while at the same time condemning the Israelis' indiscriminate excesses, inhuman measures, and official terrorism they use against the Arab citizens, it has reached the extent where officials allow the issuance of orders to kill Palestinians without any legal interrogation of the murderers or any punishment.

Proceeding from the committee's responsibility, it calls on the Arab foreign ministers to seek a Security Council session to put an end to what is happening against the Palestinian Arabs and to guarantee humanitarian protection for them, as is stipulated by UN resolutions and human rights laws.

Editorial Denounces Saudi Oil Supply Decision

JN2509143990 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 25 Sep 90 pp 1, 16

[Editorial: "The Decision of a Government and Not That of a Company"]

[Text] When the Saudi foreign minister threatened to starve Jordanians at the Arab League Council session held in Cairo, we did not dwell on this threat. We said that this was an angry reaction against Jordan for its refusal to yield to the U.S. big stick, as others did.

When the Saudi ambassador in Washington began to slander us using American terms put before him, we did not dwell on his slander and vituperations. We told ourselves that the "prince's" experience in everything nonpolitical might be behind these vituperations, which he voiced against our country, people, and leadership on the air over the high seas.

Even the Saudi press views its slander against us as a daily exercise to be performed. However, we remained convinced that the relationship binding us to the Saudi brothers was too strong to be torpedoed by the statements of a prince, minister, ambassador, or journalists, who believe that satisfying the enemies of the homeland and the nation is a more important and dearer objective than that of satisfying their conscience.

Now that our brothers have gone too far in this and deluded themselves into believing that our position against the invading troops coming from 20 countries is a position taken against them, that this position of ours requires that we be punished through the halting of oil supplies, that they accuse our embassy of espionage activities, not to mention scores of other hostile measures taken against Jordanian citizens, and that this means that the fraternal Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has actually decided to wage a real war against the Jordanian and Palestinian peoples. Had this been their own war, we would have accepted this eventuality. But when the war is actually that of our enemies, the issue becomes a highly serious one.

The fraternal Saudis would be exceeding the proper limits in nursing delusions if they believe they can starve us. They would go even farther than this in their harboring of delusions if they believe that they can bring us to our knees. This country, which has neither succumbed to pressures nor been blackmailed through temptations, has always remained immune to pressures and temptations. Hence, it is only natural for this country to be stronger and firmer in the confrontation of their tools. We have never wanted to see a dispute with our Saudi brothers produce such delusions. Likewise, we have never wanted to see such a dispute make them entertain the idea that they are capable of humiliating us. We believe that their oil supply ban against us, their accusations of espionage against our diplomats and embassy staff, and their continued provocative measures against our citizens will produce gains for our nation's enemies, not for Saudi Arabia. These things would not benefit Saudi Arabia. Rather, they will have evil effects on us—Jordanians and Saudis alike.

What the Saudi brothers know and what they should not forget for a moment is that we will be ready to eat dirt rather than the bread that comes with humiliation. We will choose to remain thirsty rather than bow to anyone but God. The attempt to starve us, to bring us to our knees, and to push us into the U.S. corral will be doomed to abject failure, whether the decision to make this attempt comes from Riyadh or Washington.

The oil supply that was halted was not used for our U.S. luxury cars. It was the oil used in our tanks and armored vehicles. It was the oil of the army which is standing on the longest line of confrontation to defend the nation, including the Saudis. It was the oil of the people who do not offer their affiliation for sale, who know that only God rather than the United States, Britain, or the Zionist entity is the Almighty. It was the oil of the people who know that only God is the Almighty, and not any other party which deludes itself into believing that it can press with its trembling fingers on our firm and strong Arab neck.

We now understand that the threats to starve the Jordanians voiced by the Saudi minister, that the vituperations uttered by the Saudi ambassador against us using American terms, and that the slander campaign that the Saudi press has made the order of the day were all initial indicators of the great illusion—namely that of pushing us to use American helmets, placing us in the trench hostile to Arabism and Islam, and breaking our firmness and weakening our steadfastness to abolish the exception that presents the truth to people. How cruel will be the punishment of the people at the moment of their renaissance, which has begun and continues to advance!

Columnist Attacks Saudi Ambassador to U.S.

JN2709143090 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 27 Sept 90 p 18

[Article by columnist Khalid Mahadin: "May God Preserve Saudi Arabia From Its Little Men!"]

[Text] Prince Bandar bin Sultan is the ambassador of fraternal Saudi Arabia to the friendly United States. He made a public appearance the day before yesterday to read a written statement in which he replied to the message addressed by His Majesty King Husayn to the American people. The announcer took his highness the prince by surprise when he asked him what he thought about this message. The prince took out his written statement and read it to the viewers.

Because he thinks he is a clever person, Prince Bandar views the message addressed by His Majesty King Husayn to the American people in his own voice as going over the head [tajawuzan] of President Bush. The only explanation the prince can claim for this ingenious conclusion is that those who wrote his statement for him intentionally deceived him and did not inform him that the royal message had been distributed to members of the U.S. Congress a few days before it was broadcast on U.S. television in his majesty's voice. With the exception of this "clever" remark from his highness the prince, the statement he read was nothing more than cheap abuse of Jordan, its leader, and its policies. Had I not respected the sentiments of Jordanian citizens and been concerned about their sense of decorum, I would have called for transmitting Prince Bandar's statement as it was broadcast on the U.S. television network.

Prince Bandar's statement confirms what we already know—that our fears over fraternal Saudi Arabia are well-founded and that these fears do not stem from the fact that neither the United States, the United Kingdom, the Zionist entity, nor any other party wants this Muslim Arab country to maintain its Arab and Muslim role, but rather, arise from these little Saudi princes who have not benefited from the wisdom, composure, and balance of their fathers. They thus rushed to set traps for their own country in implementation of the schemes of those who had taken them under their wing and portrayed their future as being a rosy one if they distanced themsleves from the pan-Arab or Islamic commitments that their fathers had cherished. The reward with which these hostile cicrles lure these little Saudi princes is that the future of Saudi Arabia will be in their own hands, that its wealth will be theirs alone, and that they will have the opportunity to live a more dissolute life, a life of pleasure and leisure.

Prince Bandar bin Sultan is an example of this type of little Saudi prince. He was sent to Washingtron to act as his country's ambassador. Instead of this he became an employee of the U.S. State Department who does everything he is asked, even if it involves the destruction of the pan-Arab and Islamic role that should be played by Saudi Arabia, the protector and defender of the Muslim holy places. Prince Bandar is brave enough not to conceal his connections and duties. In an interview on U.S. television, the announcer asked him: It seems you have many duties as an ambassador in Washington. Can you tell us about these duties? Prince Bandar replied verbatim: Yes, I am not a tourist in Washington and I have many duties. The announcer asked him: Can you tell us about your connections with the Central Intelligence Agency? Prince Bandar smiled and said: I believe I replied to this question when I told you that I am not a tourist in Washington.

Let us return to the written statement that Prince Bandar read on Tuesday [25 September] evening to prove that it was prepared for him in an intelligent manner to address American public opinion and that the motive behind the preparation of this statement was to lessen the deep impact His Majesty King Husayn's message had on the American people. In spite of this, it is certain that the result would not be as good as that anticipated by those who had prepared the statement, or by the prince who read it, because the Americans who daily watch him welcoming the foreign occupation of his country could never believe what was contained in the statement on the occupation of Jerusalem.

What the ambassador prince said about Jerusalem needs to be clarified because he holds Jordan alone responsible for the Israeli occupation of the al-Aqsa mosque and the Church of the Sepulchre, and for their continued occupation since 1967. The prince made this this remark while referring to the opposition by Jordan, Arabs, and Muslims to the desecration by foreign forces of the Islamic holy places in the Arabian Peninsula.

Discussing everything relating to the Israeli occupation with Prince Bandar would make a long story. However, what we would like to know is whether the prince wishes the Israeli occupation of Jerusalem to continue or whether he wishes it to end. If the latter is the case, then the ultimate thing we ask from his highness and all the little Saudi princes is for them to have the guts to demand the implementation of the UN Security Council resolution concerning Jerusalem; or for his highness and the other highnesses to accept the full implementation of all UN resolutions, both those related to Palestine and those related to Iraq. While we appreciate his highness' great sorrow at the loss of Jerusalem and his anger over our inability in Jordan to liberate it, we hope that he, as he wanders in the corridors of the U.S. State Department or the CIA, will look for the real reasons behind the assassination of the late King Faysal Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz. If he finds the dossier, then he will read that the last meeting between King Faysal and Henry Kissinger was meant to deal with the issue of oil, as far as Kissinger was concerned, and with the issue of Jerusalem, as far as the Saudi King was concerned. The reason behind his assassination was the sentence he said to Kissinger: "Jerusalem must come before oil."

It is certain that the late King Faysal Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz would have died of rage before he was killed had he known he had a nephew with such good behavior and manners, and with such deeply denounced connections, to the extent that he paves the way for the occupation of his country and sings the praise of that occupation, even if it was at the expense of the great role we as Arabs and Muslims have wished for that fraternal country.

Numerous facts that the future will reveal will show us the major role played by Prince Bandar in pushing his country into a position unwanted by Arabs and Muslims. He wrote to the Saudi Foreign Ministry, even before U.S. Defense Secretary Cheney arrived in Saudi Arabia, asking for calling in U.S. troops "because I have been informed by the U.S. Administration that its decision in this regard is final, whether or not Riyadh agrees to ask the United States to send its troops. Therefore, I suggest that an invitation be extended so that it would not look like an occupation by force."

It is certain that Prince Bandar has not understood, and cannot understand, the seriousness of what he and the other little Saudi princes like him have done, not only in serving the United States and the Zionist entity, but also in harming his homeland and exaggerating the U.S. allegations about nonexistent Iraqi schemes. This is because his highness is not well-read in history. He cannot live outside the current moment, and the Washington police file contains only a few records on this. [sentence as published]

There remains a question that Prince Bandar bin-Sultan thought would make us angry if he mentioned it. He referred to it when he said that Jordan believes the Iraqi-Kuwaiti borders are artificial. In his wisdom, his highness says in his statement that the Jordanian allegations are false and that the Jordanian borders are the artificial ones. His highness thought this would make us angry. However, if he knew us well, and if he had any sense of affiliation to a single homeland and a single nation, he would not have uttered that sentence. We believe that this homeland extends from the [Atlantic] Ocean to the Gulf and that all borders between its states are artificial, just as do all pan-Arab nationalists who do not think of the homeland as an hotel which one pays for with oil money and leaves at the first spark, or when a fire starts. We in Jordan, your highness, are the sons of the great Arab revolt which began in the plains of Mecca to unite the homeland and nation, and which was about to achieve this if they had not conspired against its Hashemite Arab leadership and collected the reward. So, shall we go back into history with you—you who can neither look into the past nor the future because if you could, you would not have done what you did to your country.

We beseech God to give guidance to everyone who is misled. We also pray for the well-being of the sisterly Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. We realize now how much its founding fathers and wise men have suffered from what the son-princes are doing, which will not benefit them or us, Muslims and Arabs.

Reaction to UN Resolution 670 on Air Embargo

Government To Observe Provisions

JN2609120590 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 26 Sep 90

[Text] Replying to a question by the PETRA-JNA reporter, a spokesman for the Transportation Ministry said the Jordanian Government is aware that UN Security Council Resolution No. 670 of 1990 is mandatory.

Consequently, the Civil Aviation Authority and the other competent organs will implement this resolution in conformity with the mandatory UN resolutions.

Official Views Interpretation

JN2709180690 Amman Jordan Television Network in Arabic 1715 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Text] Concerning the interpretation of the air embargo of Iraq voted upon by the UN Security Council yesterday, and how it is to be enforced, our reporter interviewed Mr. Mahmud Jamal Balqaz, director general of the Civil Aviation Authority:

[Begin recording] [Reporter] Mr. Mahmud, there are various interpretations of UN Security Council Resolution 670, which ordered an air embargo of Iraq. How does Jordan interpret this resolution?

[Balqaz] Jordan's interpretation of Resolution 670 is that it mainly addresses air freight and does not remotely touch on passenger planes unless they happen to carry any type of air freight. Exempted are foodstuffs for humanitarian reasons, subject to the approval of the United Nations. Also exempted are consignments to UN observer teams on the Iraq-Iran border.

[Reporter] Are we then to understand that Iraqi planes will continue to land and take off from the airports of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan?

[Balqaz] Iraqi Airways planes are still coming to Jordan and will continue to come to Jordan unless decided otherwise, and as long as these aircraft carry only passengers and do not transport any type of air shipments.

[Reporter] What is the situation regarding planes crossing Jordanian airspace?

[Balqaz] There is nothing to prevent any planes' crossing Jordan's air space en route to Iraqi or Kuwaiti airports, subject to their meeting three conditions:

First [as heard], they will have to land at a Jordanian airport for inspection to ascertain whether they carry a permit from the United Nations, or whether the trip in question is being made to serve the UN military observation officers stationed between Iraq and Iran.

[Reporter] Is this interpretation peculiar to Jordan, or is it universal?

[Balqaz] It is an interpretation that Jordan shares with many nations, including Britain, which has announced that there is nothing to prevent passenger planes from going to or from Iraq as long as they carry no cargo, and that the decision covers only air freight. This is also the interpretation of the UN-affiliated International Air Traffic Association [IATA], whose spokesman said Resolution 670 applies only to air freight, unless otherwise stated by the United Nations. IATA is the leading authority for the civil aviation industry throughout the world.

[Reporter] Thanks.

[Balqaz] Thanks. [end recording]

Information Minister Comments

JN2709064390 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 27-28 Sep 90 p 1

[Report by Mariam M. Shahin]

[Text] Amman—Jordan Wednesday [26 September] affirmed its commitment to respecting United Nations Security Council Resolution 670 calling for an air embargo on cargo getting into or out of Iraq, and a senior official said the Kingdom does not consider commercial flights carrying passengers entering or leaving Iraq and Kuwait as included in the sanction.

"From our first reading of the resolution, it is clear that it applies only to cargo, and until there is a clarification to the contrary, passenger flights into and out of Iraq will be allowed to use Jordanian airspace and territory," said Minister of Information Ibrahim 'Izz-al-Din.

Underlining Jordan's proven record of respect for the United Nations Charter and adherence to the world body's resolutions, 'Izz-al-Din said: "We all know that Security Council resolutions are mandatory and the government of Jordan will adhere to the Security Council resolution."

A Ministry of Transport statement carried by the Jordan news agency, PETRA, said that the Kingdom, "in line with Jordan's respect for all United Nations resolutions, the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) and other concerned departments will abide by this resolution."

Sources close to the CAA said the authority was studying the "fine print" of Resolution 670, which was adopted Tuesday [25 September] by the Security Council. "What appears to be confusing is the clause which says that every aircraft flying in and out of Iraq should be inspected," said one source.

The Security Council resolution calls on governments to refuse permission to any aircraft going to or from Iraq or Kuwait to fly over their territories unless it lands for an inspection to ensure any cargo is permitted for humanitarian reasons. It says that the aircraft may be "detained for as long as necessary." Exceptions are for flights approved by the United Nations and for the United Nations Iran-Iraq observer group (UNIIMOG), which is monitoring the Iran-Iraq ceasefire.

The air blockade, which was approved by the Security Council late Tuesday, could further escalate the tension in the region, 'Izz-al-Din said. "At a time when we need deescalation, this decision introduces more negative elements," he said. "Jordan is not at all happy about implementing the resolution since it does not advance the process of peace that Jordan is advocating."

Two Iraqi Airways planes carrying foreigners from Kuwait and Iraq landed in Amman Wednesday, dumbfounding many journalists' expectation that the aircraft would not be allowed to use Jordanian territory.

An airport source expected Iraqi Airways flights to continue to land in Amman in line with the exception to the United Nations resolution.

"We have not received any orders to refuse landing rights to Iraqi planes," the source said.

In general terms, the embargo will only have a relatively minor impact on the Jordanian economy, according to economic analysts. "The damage has already been done and if one has to talk about the impact of the air embargo it will only relate to a few thousands of dollars in landing fees and other aviation related charges," said an airline source.

Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze said the flights to Amman Wednesday may have broken Resolution 670 and should be examined by the U.N. sanctions committee.

"This could be a coincidence. The resolution was just adopted last night. Or maybe it's a violation," he told reporters in New York.

In London a Foreign Office spokesman said the ban applied only to cargo. Nuri al-Safi, head of Iraqi Airways, said that was also Baghdad's interpretation.

In Paris, a French Foreign Ministry spokesman said the French-language text of the U.N. resolution clearly stated the embargo involved cargo.

"There is no scope for any interpretation as far as we are concerned since the text (in French) says the embargo refers to cargo and leaves no grey area," the spokesman said.

Two Iraqi Planes Land at Amman Airport 27 Sep

JN2709174990 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1714 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Text] It has been learned from Amman that two Iraqi civilian aircraft landed at Amman airport today. The Jordanian Transport Ministry said the Security Council resolution applies only to cargo planes. An air traffic control source in Amman said the airport has thus far not received any instructions barring Iraqi Airways aircraft from landing at Jordanian airports.

Foreign Minister Addresses UN General Assembly

JN2709082590 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 27-28 Sep 90 pp 1, 5

["Full Text" of Jordanian Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Marwan al-Qasim's speech to the United Nations General Assembly on 26 September]

[Text] Mr. President, It is my pleasure to see you preside over the General Assembly at its current session. Your election to this high office, which you so rightly deserve, is a recognition of the great esteem in which your friendly country and you personally are held. It is an indication of confidence in your ability to conduct the business of this session with efficiency and wisdom that will ensure its success.

I am also delighted to express our gratitude and appreciation to your predecessor, His Excellency Mr. Joseph Garba, for his outstanding efficiency and ability in conducting the business of the forty-fourth sesssion.

I would also like to pay tribute to the efforts of the secretary-general, His Excellency Mr. Javier Perez de Cuellar, and his incessant endeavours in the service of the cause of peace. I would mention, in this respect, his valuable report on the work of the organisation which, last year, under his leadership, made important accomplishments in many regions and on various levels. We look forward to continued cooperation with His Excellency and to offering all that we can to enhance his ability to carry out his noble tasks.

Mr. President,
My country has, during the past few decades, faced regional circumstances of extreme complexity, which on the whole were the result of the international situation that emerged after the first World War. While those circumstances have placed heavy burdens on us, a small country, they did not prevent the establishment of the philosophy of government in Jordan on solid foundations that combine our national, religious and cultural heritage with an openness towards humanity and interaction with it in a world whose continuity and progress can be guaranteed only by international legal legitimacy.

In 1945, Jordan, together with six other Arab states, established the League of Arab States which was the first regional organisation to precede the establishment of the United Nations, whose lofty principles it adhered to. Jordan has acted with utmost moderation and realism in dealing with the various crises, issues and currents which the region has witnessed. This is in keeping with the nature of its own composition, based on the supremacy of law and democratic participation. It has succeeded, despite the regional turbulence all around it, in building a society characterised by constant openness and evolution, on the basis of tolerance and quiet dialogue. The Jordanian people participated in the process of construction through their responsible exercise of democracy which was disrupted only by the circumstances that emerged after the June war of 1967. Now, following the decision of Jordan to sever its legal and administrative ties with the occupied West Bank, in confromity with Palestinian and Arab wishes, parliament has resumed its work in an atmosphere of openness and full democracy. We are determined to safeguard and develop this democracy until it reaches a high level of maturity and strikes deep roots to encompass all aspects of life in our society.

This development took place at a time in which we witness a comprehensive and distinct universal turning towards democracy, exemplified by the recent transformations in Eastern Europe which came as an expression of the yearning of the various nations for the enjoyment of their freedom and to marching forward in the process of socio-economic development of their countries. While looking forward to the success of our democratic experiment, we hope that the climate of freedom and popular participation will be enhanced throughout out the world, to encompass all states and peoples who yearn for exercising their right to conduct their own affairs free from pressure, dependence and hegemony.

Successive crises that befell the Middle East region during the past decades have hindered the development of this vital part of the world, inspite of the abundance of wealth therein. This resulted in the accumulation of a feeling of frustration and bitterness among its peoples. Failure to find comprehensive and lasting solutions to those crises created a state of constant tension in the area, accompanied by a general psychological climate characterised by the feeling of grievance and of being targetted. This added serious dimensions to the socio-economic complications and made the whole area a fertile ground for all kinds of extremism. To come to grips with such a situation requires, first and foremost, recognition of the right of the peoples of this area to lead a free and dignified life. This in turn requires that serious efforts be made to create a suitable climate based on the comprehensiveness and universality of human rights and on the adherence to international legitimacy as constituted by the Charter and resolutions of the United Nations.

Despite the injustice and frustration suffered by the peoples of the Middle East region, they remain more anxious to enhance the role of the United Nations and to strengthen it in all spheres, epecially where it is concerned with peace-making and peace-keeping. The end of the cold war has brought about hopes that the absence of rivalry between the Superpowers would lead to directing all efforts to working in a United Nations context. However, there are indications that certain powers may deal with the recent positive developments with a sense of victory and see in them room for increasing their own gains by attempting to impose their will on other states. While our area and its peoples have paid a heavy price for the Super-power rivalry during the cold war, they look forward to seeing the end of the cold war lead to putting an end to polarism once and for all and to getting rid completely of all attempts at hegemonism and exploitation in a way that would spread the benefits of international detente to all humanity and lead to the supermacy of the principles of law, justice and equality in this world.

Mr. President,
Our region and the whole world live, nowadays, in a state of high tension as a result of the crisis in the Gulf. Jordan has called for and worked towards the settlement of this crisis in a way that conforms to the principles of the League of Arab States and prevents the continuous drift towards a military explosion which threatens the security of the area and puts it face to face with a certain catastrophe and endangers international peace and security.

Out of this sense of the danger surrounding the area and its peoples, His Majesty King Husayn has, from the moment the crisis broke out, made and continues to make, together with other Arab leaders, sincere and strenuous efforts to find a peaceful solution to this crisis.

Jordan, as a civilised country that respects its obligations under the Charter of the United Nations, does not approve of the resort to force as a way of solving differences between states, nor does it accept the occupation of the territory of others or support or recognise any demographic or political changes resulting from war in our area or anywhere in the world. Accordingly, Jordan did not recognise the decision to annex Kuwait. It called and continues to call for the restoration of legitimacy in this Arab country through withdrawal therefrom and followed by finding a permanent solution to the differences between Iraq and Kuwait within the Arab context.

It is regrettable to see that the efforts made to solve the crisis at its beginning, within its regional context, have not been given sufficient opportunity and support. Some have even tried to thwart them, which led to a quick worsening of the situation in such a way that brought about a mutual escalation which, in turn, increased rigidity of positions and made the whole region face grim prospects. Now, several weeks after the breakout of the crisis, we are more convinced that its solution will come only through sincere and serious efforts by the Arab States, which efforts should be given international support and backing, in order to avoid a tragedy whose effects will not be confined to one party alone.

This does not at all mean that we see a contradiction between what we and other Arab states and others are calling for, i.e., that the settlement should be found within a pan-Arab context, and the efforts that may be made by the international community—of which we are part—in a United Nations context and in accordance with its Charter. We believe that these two efforts should complement and facilitate one another.

The fact that we live in the Middle East region makes us more sensitive to the dangers of explosion of the situation there, in view of the weapons of mass destruction that exist therein, whether in the hands of regional parties or brought in with the huge foreign military buildup which has been continuous since the start of the crisis. This constitutes an additional incentive for us not to hesitate in making efforts to save the peoples of the areas and the future generations from dangers of an armed conflict which, if it took place, will acquire unimaginable dimensions. We hope that everybody will appreciate that we have not taken our position on this crisis and its dangerous ramification in order to please this or that party. We took it in keeping with our adherence to our principles and our determination to safeguard the security and safety of the countries and peoples of the area. In this context, we cannot but be astonished at the nervous reactions, of which we hear and whose effects we feel, to our principled stand that rejects the occupation of the territory of others by force while, at the same time, we continue to work towards a peaceful and honourable solution to this crisis. We are directly affected by the severe negative consequences of this crisis in such a way that does not permit us to ignore it or look at it with indifferece.

Our compliance with Security [Council] resolutions is a matter mandated by the Charter. We cannot treat it selectively or seasonally. Jordan has declared its compliance with the recent resolutions of the council on crisis. Hence our implementation of Security Council resolution imposing sanctions on Iraq, inspite of its devastating effects on our national economy which threaten Jordan now and in the future in walks of life.

We were the first state to request consultations with the Security Council regarding the particular economic difficulties that will occur as a result of our compliance with Security Council Resolution 661 (1990), in accordance with Article 50 of the UN Charter. It is unfortunate that we see some who want to use this as a means to pressure us and compel us to support positions and policies that we believe will bring destruction to the region.

We hope the international community will appreciate the major economic difficulties our economy faces as a result of the crisis. In addition to the burdens resulting from our compliance with Resolution 661, we started to suffer deteriorating conditions as a result of humanitarian problems that beset Jordanians working in Kuwait and other places, who have lost all their belongings home in growing numbers. [sentence as published]

Jordan also faces the influx of hundreds of thousands of persons of other nationalities coming from Iraq and Kuwait. Helping these vast numbers of people imposes very heavy burdens that our economy cannot support. It is regrettable that all this happens when we face a state very similar to that of siege.

Jordan, in the face of the crisis and its overall effects, has no choice but to continue making efforts, together with other Arab states and others, to prevent a military confrontation and prepare the ground for creating a climate conducive to reaching a permanent solution to the crisis that will guarantee the interests of all parties and enable them to shoulder their responsibility toward the region and its resources which we recognise as important to human civilization, in such a way as to guarantee peacemaking and peacekeeping in the region, free from all formulas and pretexts for foreign presence. We would like to emphasise that sincere, objective and un-biased Arab participation must be an integral part of any solution offered by the United Nations for this crisis, because we firmly believe that any solution imposed from outside will have no chance of success whatsoever.

Mr. President:

On the other side of the Middle East region where, despite the elapse of 23 years since its adoption by the Security Council, another resolution, namely Resolution 242 (1967), still remains unimplemented, Israel continues, to this every day, to occupy the territories from which the Security Council had demanded that it withdraw. The Palestinian people continue to live under most brutal kind of colonialism, despite numerous resolutions adopted by the Council condemning various aspects of that colonialism, from its annexation of Arab Jerusalem, and the Syrian Golan Heights, to the establishment of settlements on Palestinian territories and other acts of oppression, including the deportation of Palestinians from their land, as part of a scheme designed to vacate the land of its people. Neither have any of those resolutions found its way to implementation. Israel had found friends willing not only to help it in not implementing the resolutions of the Security Council, but also in hindering work and paralyzing its ability to take decisions on the subject, thus making it difficult for the Council to convene, if only to discuss the situation in the occupied territories.

This encouraged Israel to persist in its colonialist plans, the themes and contents of which are no longer championed by extremist or marginal groups, but have become the officially-declared policy of the Israeli Government. The policy guidelines that constitute the platform of present government in Israel, as announced this past June, states that "the eternal right of the Jewish people in (Eretz Israel) is not subject to question. It is interwined with its right to peace and security." Bearing in mind that the definition of the so-called "Eretz Israel" includes at least the State of Israel and the Palestinian territories occupied in 1967, it becomes clear that Israel has thus negated the very foundation on which all the peace efforts of the past two decades were based, namely the formula for exchanging the occupied territories for peace.

Israel has also seen in the recent international developments an opportunity to effect sweeping and definitive demographic change in the occupied territories by limiting the options open to Jews emigrating from the Soviet Union and ensuring that their only destination would be Israel, in preparation for resettling them in the occupied territories when conditions become propitious. It should also be recalled that Israel's Prime Minister had already declared that "immigration is a great matter which requires the existence of a greater Israel."

While recognising that the freedom to emigrate from the Soviet Union and other Eastern European States was the result of internal developments in those societies, one should not, however, fail to remember the tremendous pressures and continuous efforts exerted by Israel and its supporters to ensure that all emigrants go to Israel which regards them as a major tool in carrying out its expansionist schemes.

Thus, while we welcome the recent positive developments in the Soviet Union and the East European States, we view the fact of making the Palestinian people bear the consequences of that immigration to their land as another historic injustice to them, which is even in contravention to the very text and instruments on which the right to migration is based, in particular the Helsinki Declaration and the agreements pertaining there-to, which include the right of a person to leave his country and return to it. Therefore, it is only logical that the Palestinans should question the legitimacy of the immigration of citizens of other states to their land, when they are being expelled from it and never allowed to return thereto.

In the absence of a peaceful, comprehensive and durable solution to the question of Palestine and the Arab-Israeli conflict, the continuation of this immigration constitutes a violation of the rights of the Palestinian people to their national homeland and a threat to the national security of neighbouring states. Ultimately, it will encourage the ruling circles in Israel to vacate the occupied territories of their indigenous inhabitants and replace them with the large numbers of immigrants; particularly since the limited natural resouces of the area could severely limit its absorptive capacity, thus increasing the possibility of Israel carrying out a plan for the mass expulsion of Palestinians from their homeland.

Mr. President,

Ever since their national tragedy began, the Palestinian people have proven that it is impossible for them to abandon their legitimate national rights. They continued to confront the repressive Israeli machinery with endless sacrifices in order to achieve their goal of self-determination and national independence on their soil, like all other peoples. Their struggle reached its peak in the past three years, through their continuing popular uprising, Intifadah, against the Israeli occupation which, in dealing with that Intifadah, unmasked the real face of Israel and laid bare its unrespect of human rights. It also proved that the logic of might and the desire for expansionism dominate the Israeli thinking which still regards the Intifadah as a matter of security rather than a political issue representing the revolt of a people aspiring for independence with whom Israel must come to terms in order to find the appropriate political settlement. Against this backdrop Israeli occupation constitutes an anomaly, indeed an anachronism in this era which is witnessing the end of colonialism in a budding atmosphere of freedom and democracy.

It is regrettable that the peace process in the Middle East should have come to a complete standstill even before the crisis in the Gulf began, and that Israel and its supporters are counting on the continuation of this crisis in order to reap certain benefits, foremost among which is a receding in the search for a peaceful solution to the question of Palestine. Noteworthy, however, is the fact that Israel and its supporters are the parties most enthusiastic for a military showdown and they encourage it as a means of ending the Gulf crisis.

This crisis has revealed the dangers that may result from a continued deterioration of the situation in the Middle East, dangers with far-reaching devastating effects that transcend the borders of the region. Accordingly, there is today, more than ever before, a need for implementing Security Council resolutions which constitute the legal and political basis for any peaceful settlement in the region. The whole world is almost unanimous in declaring that the appropriate means to achieve such a settlement, in an honourable and lasting manner, is through an international peace conference in which all the parties to the conflict, as well as the five permanent members of the Security Council, will participate, especially since the state of international detente has presumably removed this idea from the sphere of rivalry between the Super-powers.

Mr. President,
Recent developments have proved that peace will not prevail in this world simply by ending the conflict between the Super-powers and the establishment of detente between them. They have also proved that unresolved crises do not automatically disappear with the passage of time, but increase in seriousness and complexity. The same developments also confirm that using double or contradictory political, legal and moral standards does not serve the cause of justice and peace in this world. What our region needs most today is a single standard governing relations between its states under the umbrella of international legitimacy, free from selectivity, in order to make the movement of this region in harmony with, rather than in contradiction to, positive developments in our world. In this context, we view the proproals of His excellency Presidence Francois Mitterrand of France, made during his speech from this podium two days ago, and the Soviet proposal to hold a conference for peace in the area as ideas deserving careful consideration. We in Jordan shall remain, as always, totally ready to co-operate with the United Nations and with our friends in working for a peaceful solution to the problems of the region so that its states and peoples may, after all their suffering, enjoy living in freedom and dignity, and be able to determine their future and to contribute, on the basis if equality and partnership forming a new world order, so that peace and justice may go hand in hand, since neither can prevail without the other.

Thank you, Mr. President.

Prince Hasan Discusses Gulf With UN Delegates

JN2709184490 Amman Jordan Television Network in Arabic 1700 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Text] His Highness Crown Prince Hasan has held a number of meetings at his residence in New York. With the following report is our political affairs correspondent, Hani al-Badri:

[Begin al-Badri recording] His Highness Prince Hasan has seen the ambassadors of the UN Security Council members, including the five permanent members. He explained Jordan's position on the Gulf crisis, and how it can help find a peaceful way out. His highness also explained Jordan's endeavors to find an Arab-based solution underpinned by international legitimacy. His highness also explained the economic hardship faced by Jordan as a result of its compliance with UN Security Council Resolution 661.

His highness has also met with Pakistan's Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan, who is leading his country's delegation to the current UN General Assembly session. They discussed developments in the Gulf crisis. The crown prince also received separately at his New York residence the FRG and British Foreign Secretaries Hans Dietrich Genscher and Douglas Hurd who are heading their countries' delegations to the UN General Assembly session. The meetings took up the Gulf crisis. Present at all these meetings were the deputy prime minister and foreign minister, and Jordan's permanent UN representative. [end recording]

'Source' Terms Mitterrand Proposals 'Positive'

JN2609090290 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 26 Sep 90 pp 1, 16

[Report by Rabab Mango]

[Text] Amman—An official Jordanian source yesterday welcomed the four-point Middle East peace proposals French President Francois Mitterrand presented to the UN General Assembly on Monday [24 September]. A Foreign Ministry official said that the French president's proposals are positive and seek a negotiated settlement. The source said: The French initiative is a positive step in the French position which is influential in the European Community. The French initiative seeks a negotiated settlement rather than an unconditional withdrawal.

Asked about the third phase of the French initiative, which stipulates that the international community and the Arab countries should be involved in resolving "other" disputes in the Middle East as cited in the statement "in Lebanon and the presence of foreign forces in them as well as the Palestinian people's aspirations for an independent state and Israel's right to live in security," the source said that for the first time a Western official has linked the Gulf crisis and the Palestine question, considering this a positive approach.

Explaining Jordan's attitude toward the second phase of the initiative which talked about "restoring Kuwait's sovereignty and the democratic expression of the will of the Kuwaiti people," he said: Jordan calls for the restoration of legitimacy in Kuwait and supports whatever the Kuwaiti people choose at a later stage.

The source highly valued the fourth phase of the initiative which provides for reciprocal arms reduction and the start of cooperation in the Arab world from Iran to Morocco and said: This article calls for the comprehensive reduction of the weapons of destruction in the whole region. It has thus avoided the selective style; that is, (the exemption of Israel).

The source pointed out that the initiative is aimed at pursuing diplomatic methods to establish peace rather than resorting to the military option.

Responding to a question by AL-RA'Y on the French president's proposals and how they contained some points of agreement with the Jordanian approach, French Ambassador in Amman Denis Bouchard said that His Majesty King Husayn, in his message to the American people, and President Mitterrand, in his initiative, follow the same approach as both have stressed the need to hold an international conference for peace in the Midddle East so that all matters would be addressed and all regional problems resolved.

He said: His Majesty King Husayn and the french president believe that this crisis should be resolved in an Arab context. He added: We are for an Arab solution provided that the Arabs agree to it within the framework of the UN resolutions.

The French ambassador indicated that His Majesty King Husayn stressed the nonadmissibility of the acquistion of territory by force and that this principle was included in President Mitterrand's proposals. President Mitterrand, he said, also indicated the need to give the people of Kuwait the freedom to express their will according to democratic principles. This indicates similarity in the Jordanian and French approaches, in addition to the fact that both countries stress the need to find a peaceful solution to the crisis.

Paper Advocates Consideration of Saddam Guarantees

JN2509200990 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic
25 Sep 90 p 1

[Editorial: "Iraqi Guarantees for Saudi Arabia's Security"]

[Text] When President Saddam Husayn declares his country's readiness to provide all guarantees requested by Saudi Arabia to make it feel safe as regards Iraqi intentions, in so doing he is taking away the justification used by the United States to occupy Arab oil wells and threaten the safety and stability of the peoples in the region.

There is no doubt that this story about Iraq threatening Saudi Arabia's security was from A to Z a fabricated American tale. We do not believe that anyone inside or outside Saudi Arabia has missed the U.S. intent lurking behind this falsification of fact and history, especially since U.S. troops were already halfway to Saudi Arabia when the George Bush administration started spreading this shameless lie.

Therefore, it remained clear that the U.S. Satan kept on blowing through the various media organs. It persisted in its concentrated campaign through the various political forums to frighten the Saudis and delude them into thinking that there is someone who wants to occupy Saudi Arabia, to such an extent that this lie almost became an accepted truth to many of the Arab circles, especially those circles that called for aligning themselves with Satan and deemed it permissible to bring in the neo-crusader troops to defend the holiest of Islamic shrines.

The guarantees Saddam Husayn gave to the popular Islamic delegation regarding Iraq's peaceful intentions toward Saudi Arabia is something that ought to be taken seriously by all who became involved in bringing Atlantic troops to their countries, and who placed their destinies—as well as the destinies of the peoples in the region—in the hands of foreigners, who never for one moment concealed their designs on the petroleum wealth beneath the surface of the earth in this region.

A thorough examination of the course of events and speedy developments reveals very clearly that maintaining and protecting the Iraqi deterrent force from all the Western dangers threatening it constitutes the only practical guarantee that can be trusted to make the U.S. invading forces leave the land of the Arabs and the Muslims. This should make the Saudis wonder first and foremost about the seriousness of the guarantees given it on the future withdrawal of the foreign forces if the U.S. plan to hit Iraq and end its military power is achieved—the military power that is capable of practicing the harshest pressures to make the Americans leave the land of peace and Arabism.

Paper Says Arabs, Muslims Will Fight Americans

JN2609124590 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic
26 Sep 90 pp 1, 16

[Editorial: "It Is This Nation That Will Never Budge"]

[Text] U.S. President George Bush has announced that he will not budge an inch from his position and conditions regarding the Gulf crisis. The words, meaning, and objectives of this announcement, and the mentality it reflects, do not suggest that this is a president of a country concerned about peace, protection of values and principles, and defense of human rights. The statement shows a racial leadership like those of the Zionist entity and the racist South African regime. President Bush's announcement has only one interpretation: the Arab and Islamic peoples must either submit to the new U.S. and crusader colonialism or prepare their necks for the U.S. knife, which is thirsty for the blood of Arabs and Muslims.

We do not want to tell President Bush that we as a homeland and as millions of people are ready to meet martyrdom in defense of our dignity, and that we will never retreat a single inch from our position. But we would like to ask him: And so what if you do not budge? We, indeed, wonder who made him think that millions of Arabs and Muslims are merely a herd of sheep, shaking with fear, begging mercy from the United States, and appealing to President Bush not to lose patience or make his difficult decision?

This nation, Mr. President, is not the group that prepares your reports or opens its country to you to attack Iraq and the entire Arab world. Nor is it the group that deludes you into thinking that you can enter Baghdad as did Hulagu and storm all Muslim sanctities as did the hired French contingent when it chased Juhayman [al-'Utaybi] and his group inside the holy Kaaba. Nor is it the group that will be waiting for you at Arab ports and airports with tea and coffee, and with heads bowed in obedience.

This is the nation, Mr. President, whose millions will chase your soldiers and all your allied forces throughout the Arab and Islamic world. Millions with souls eager for martyrdom and anger, eager for revenge and powerful upwellings, eager to push you back from your position and terms, not just one inch, but long distances, far toward madness which will be our sword of revenge against those who have ambitions against our homeland, sacred places, dignity, honor, wealth, and the future of our generations.

This nation, Mr. President, will not fight you at the border with Iraq, in Hafr al-Batin, near the oil fields, or in front of the camps that are full of hired armies. It will fight you in every corner, at the back of every building, on every soil, under every sky, near every window, and in front of every traffic light. No one will remain in this homeland except its people, its minarets, and the martyrs and honorable men who refuse to sell out their existence to the American, British, or Zionist boots.

It will be a blood no sand or rock has ever absorbed, and bodies never seen in war or battle, and the homeland will be prohibited to every ugly colonialist face.

And then the answer will be given to the great question of who is not to budge a single inch from his position and conditions: you and those now hiding under your helmet, or these millions of Arabs and Muslims tired of waiting to settle long-standing scores with those who have long humiliated and insulted them, desecrated their sanctions and honor, and given Jerusalem, Mecca, and Medina to the enemies of God, the enemies of man, and the enemies of justice and rightfulness.

JTV 'Campaign' Against Western Policies Reviewed

JN2709112290 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 27-28 Sep 90 supplement p A

["Special to the JORDAN TIMES" by Sana' 'Atiyah, contained in the "WEEKENDER" supplement under the headlines "Savages Are Not Those Who Carry Flags of Truce, But They Are Those Who Ignore Them," and "JTV Documentaries, Films Help Get Arab Message Across"]

[Text] Amman—Many of us here in Jordan have been trying hard to get a message across to Westerners. It is on why we cannot but support Iraq against the American-led military intervention in the Gulf. We have had extreme difficulty in trying to make the West understand our position as an Arab people in a developing country—not because we have not tried every possible effort and method to get the message across, but because there seems to be a mental block on the part of many, if not most, Westerners against understanding the situation the way we ourselves see it.

Endless articles and columns have been written, and many interviews and talk shows have been recorded, in an effort to get the Arab point of view across. Individuals and ordinary citizens have made themselves available to express the layman's feeling on this issue; and we must not forget the efforts on the part of His Majesty the King, His Royal Highness the Crown Prince and officials in trying to get the picture across.

There has been moreover, another recognisable endeavour by Jordan television to help this worthy effort. The foreign programme is successfully portraying a picture of history very similar to what is happening today—for we know very well that history is good at repeating itself.

There is an intensive campaign on JTV [Jordan TV] about Western and white hegemony, colonialism, and oppression against the black, red, brown, and every kind of coloured and underprivileged people... a campaign of productions mostly made by the U.S. and britain that is very relevant to what is happening now in the region and why we are against any kind of foreign supremacy. Maybe the West will understand its own language if they feel they cannot understand ours.

JTV's campaign is made up of documentaries and dramas which are not new. They are reruns put together in a way to show that white or Western supremacy simply does not work, even if the people are massacred and the hero dies in the end. The fight continues and the struggle goes on.

Let us start with the documentaries. The British documentary production of End of Empire is a very good depiction of how the days of british superiority had to end, despite the bloodshed the manipulation and blackmail of Third world leaders and the endless efforts to eliminate any type of resistance to Britain's hegemony, the resistance and will of the people continued and the empire fell as all empires eventually do.

Although Maggie (Thatcher) & Company are trying their very best to revive this empire in the Arabian Gulf and region at large, it will simply fail... even if they succeed and shedding a lot of blood. The will of the Arab people for independence from british, American or French hegemony over Arab oil or territory or decision-making is irreversible. Even if the hero, in this case Saddam Husayn, is killed, the hero has created many other heroes who will not kneel to the West, even if it means the starvation of our own children.

Other documentaries on JTV explicity portray the sickening attitude and acts of superpowers or empires towards the poor people of this unbalanced world, who end up being dead or crippled victims of arms dealers, policy-makers, and greedy bullies.

"In El Salvador, there is no space for the dead... 40,000 Salvadoreans were executed by the U.S.-backed government," said the commentator on the Four Horsemen, a documentary on the harsh reality of imperialist support for corrupt and undemocratic regimes. The U.S. financed the entire war, ensure it continuity and the fixed targets were hospitals and schools were situated, said an American congressman on the show, who added that such intervention does not lead the U.S. to achieving its political goals. [sentence as published]

The same programme said that the U.S. had spent $500 billion to wipe out 2.5 million Vietnamese during the Vietnam war. Besides the loss of life and money, the U.S. did not win the war. And if the U.S. thinks that because its war in the Gulf is financed by others that they will succeed in wiping out Iraq and its leadership, it is a bad investment and the losses will still be a lot greater than those resulting from the Vietnam war. But let us not get into that because we have heard the details of how messy and costly any war would be, while at the same time there are children liteally starving to death because the war-hungry generals need to spend so much cash on satisfying their own bloodthirsty appetites.

While we try to be understood in the West at this critical stage in history, we try to understand why the majority of people of the West are so much in support of the war generals and Western leaders who are refusing to talk peace. It is difficult to comprehend why the very same people who are today criticising the U.S., Britain, France or any other former empire for imposing their desires on other peoples can not see that the U.S. is doing exactly the same thing but with different players at a totally different area.

JTV has been successful in showing us this reality, but we wonder if the target audience is getting closer to our point of view on the whole issue of superpowers vs. victims who only want to live a dignified life and sometimes just to survive.

In the old, but relevant film, Soldier Blue aired last Saturday the Indian chief believed that the white American did not want to destroy his Cheyenne tribe, and thought that by holding up the flag of truce, the white general would spare their existence. Little did Spotted Wolf, the Indian chief, know about the image drawn by the white authority on the Indian; Savages who hack whites to death and rape with [as published] women. (Does this sound familiar or similar to the "butcher of Baghdad?")

When the indigenous American chief held up the flag of truce, the white general did not even want to see it and immediately ordered an attack on the "savage" tribe that was totally wiped out, including the women and children—the victims of every decision made by war mongering generals. Spotted Wolf trusted the white man when he shouldn't have, and the general refused to look at the flag of truce carried by the chief, although he was told by one of his officers to do so.

It is incredible how history does repeat itself. Here is Iraq holding up the flag of truce and is open to a peaceful solution to the Gulf and the Middle East conflict, but the white general refuses to even look in that direction. The general just wants to destroy and eliminate the existence of anyone who wants to live according to his own rules and not according to the general's.

Soldier Blue finally saw what the generals and officers were up to and rebelled against it. What we really need right now is more "soldier blues" to see the realities of what is happening here today and try to prevent "wiping out anyone who does not play by our rules."

The problem with the American Indian was that he was trusting of the enemy and could not possibly hold out against sophisticated weapons used by the white man. The white man was clever enough in those days to destroy and prevent anyone who would eventually try to rebel against white supremacy on the Indian land. The job was done swiftly and early.

But times have changed. The world has become a global village and communications are at a peak. A tribe will not be wiped out today without the whole world knowing about it minutes after it happens, which gives us more hope that more "soldier blues" will come to the surface this time. It gives us more hope that fighting for independence in these days is a lot easier than it used to be, even if the heores, as I said earlier, are killed.

Martin Luther King, for example, fought for equal rights for his people, and though he was assassinated, his dream of equality was realised and the black people of the U.S. have been freed, though today they continue to pay the price for decades of oppression and slavery. Though the hero died, the people continued their fight until achieving freedom and a dignified life.

The same was true in the message JTV sent on the silverscreen with the movie Cry Freedom and the mini-series Mandela. Both Steven Biko (in Cry Freedom), who was killed in a South African prison for his outspoken fight against apartheid, and Mandela, who survived 27 years in prison clinging to the hope of a free South Africa, have today won. Though apartheid still exists today, there is an obvious turn towards equality for the indigenous black people, and total equality is also inevitable.

JTV has really been doing an excellent job of portraying the mistakes of powers in history that are today being repeated, but that can still be prevented from getting out of hand. We do not want to see films in 10 or 20 years from now showing how the Arabian Gulf and the Middle East were blown to pieces because the white war generals refused to see the flags of truce held up by the Jordanian, Palestinian, Iraqi and other Arab chiefs. Let the generals for once, learn from the lessons of history and prevent an ugly repetition. But, more importantly, let the freedom-loving people of this world force their generals to see the flag of truce held high and force the generals to respond to that flag.

Savages do not carry flags of truce. Savages are those who ignore them.

More Egyptian Returnees Pass Through Country

NC2109150190 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 21 Sep 90

[Text] Today 1,950 Egyptians crossed into Jordan from Iraq through al-Ruwayshid border point. Jordanian sources reported that 780 Egyptian citizens left Jordan via the Amman-Cairo airlift on board Egyptian, Arab, and foreign planes. They added that 1,100 others left for Egypt via the ferry line which links the Jordan al-'Aqabah Port with Nuwaybi', Sharm al-Shaykh, and Suez Ports.

The sources said that approximately 300,000 Egyptians have passed through Jordan since the beginning of the Gulf crisis and noted that another 300,000 are expected to pass through Jordan in the near future.

More Arrive via Al-Ruwayshid

NC2509152790 Cairo MENA in English 1431 GMT 25 Sep 90

[Text] Amman, Sept 25 (MENA)—A total of 2,300 Egyptian returnees reached Jordanian territory via the al-Ruwayshid road today. Jordanian sources said that 1,100 Egyptians were airlifted and 1,300 others ferried back home earlier today.

Shipment of Supplies Arrives From Netherlands

JN2709184990 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 1415 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Text] Amman, 27 Sep (PETRA)—A Netherlands cargo plane carrying relief supplies from the Dutch Red Cross to Jordan's Red Crescent Society for the benefit of arrivals in Jordan from Iraq arrived in Amman today. According to Red Crescent sources, the consignment includes blankets, soap, candles, and canned food. It is to be recalled that this is the seventh relief delivery to be donated by the Netherlands Red Cross.

Officials Report on Cabinet Measures, Blockade

NC2709092490 Ihdin Radio of Free and Unified Lebanon in Arabic 0600 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Text] Political sources close to the government have stated that the six-month period set to dissolve the militias came into effect today with the publication of the constituional amendments in the official gazette. Army Commander General Emile Lahhud and Defense Minister yesterday discussed the measures taken to implement the cabinet decisions to end the anomalous situation in the eastern area.

The National News Agency has disclosed that measures have been taken to prevent cars from entering the areas that are under the control of General 'Awn. Diplomatic and Red Cross cars are exempted. General Lahhud then inspected the military units that have deployed in Beirut's suburbs and some areas in the mountain and expressed satisfaction with their morale.

General Lahhud briefed the officers and soldiers on the current situation. Addressing them he said: You are here to pursue the task of unifying the army, which the command started several months ago, especially now that we are close to political and economic deadlines that require the army to be united in order to confront them, such as the dissolution of the militias, the control of the public utilities, and the establishment of the state's authority throughout all the Lebanese territory.

A prominent government source stated that the army's blockade on the areas under General 'Awn's control will be tight because the army is intensively deployed on the crossing points and is in control of all the approaches. The source did not rule out a military explosion as a result of the blockade on these areas.

Minister Dallul on Ending 'Awn Rebellion

NC2809065290 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 0430 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] Minister Muhsin Dallul has affirmed that army units have deployed along the contact lines with sufficient numbers and equipment. In an interview with MAGAZINE that will be published today, he said the government does not intend to impose a tight siege on the eastern area but does intend to finally end General 'Awn's rebellion. Dallul added: We advocate a peaceful solution. Some parties have regarded the government warnings as mere psychological pressure or a war of nerves. The legitimate military forces, however, in addition to peaceful efforts which have not achieved tangible results, have made preparations to end the existing rebellion in the army.

Army Takes Control of East Beirut Crossings

NC2809065890 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0515 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] The legitimate government has finally begun to do what it has promised and what is expected of it. After a long rebellion against the legitimate government, a rebellion that reached the point of almost endangering Lebanon, the legitimate government has decided to take action, exercise its right, and perform its national duty after exhausting all peaceful and diplomatic means. In a step on the path of extending state sovereignty throughout Lebanon, the Lebanese Army has taken charge of the eastern area crossings controlled by the Lebanese Forces [LF]. All crossing points are now under the control of the Lebanese Army force that surrounds and confronts the area under 'Awn's control.

Deployment at the crossing points was completed at 0230 today under commander of Jabal Lubnan District Brigadier General Elie Hayik. The Army command will release a statement today on the regulation of travel to and from the area under 'Awn's control. The Lebanese Army numbers approximately 10,000 and has approximately 100 tanks, mostly T-54 and T-55, and 80 field artillery pieces as well as mortar artillery.

West European sources said that everyone was surprised at the level, mobilization, competence, zeal, and swiftness of the mobilization. The LF agreed to equip the army during the recent meeting between Defense Minister Albert Mansur and LF Commander Samir Ja'ja'.

At the Nahr al-Kalb crossing point, two soldiers from al-Mukafah, [an army battalion under Gen. 'Awn's command], one from the al-Mansur family, joined the Lebanese Army, which received the LF crossing on the northern bank of the river. Four other elements from 'Awn's command in Beirut joined the legitimate army command.

Crossing Points Closed

NC2809092390 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0800 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] Defense Ministry sources have emphasized that crossing points leading to areas under General Michel 'Awn's control will be closed as of 1200 today. The sources said this action is being taken to implement the political decision adopted by the legitimate authority to tighten the siege on the areas under Gen. 'Awn's control.

The sources noted that deputies and Red Cross and diplomatic officials are exempt from the closings. This does not mean, however, that those exempted will not be stopped; any violations can result in suspension of these exemptions.

Military sources say that nothing will be allowed in, and that if some people think this is a game, they should be aware that this is very serious and concerns the homeland's destiny.

The Defense Ministry sources said the army personnel manning the crossing points are informing people in cars that the crossing points will be closed at noon.

IDF,'Resistance' Clash in South

NC2809071290 (Clandestine) Voice of the Oppressed in Arabic to Lebanon 0530 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] According to reports from the south, resistance fighters have carried out operations against the Zionist occupation forces and their Lahd militia agents on the 'Alman-Dayr Siryan road and in the al-Tayyibah village, in Marj 'Uyun district. Clashes also took place between the resistance and enemy soldiers.

A statement issued by the resistance said that a half-track vehicle was destroyed and its Zionist passengers were killed or wounded. A tank was also hit, a troop carrier was damaged, and a military Jeep was destroyed. The statement added that more than 15 enemy soldiers were killed or wounded in the clashes.

Agents confirmed the operations, claiming that two resistance men were martyred.

Two Killed

TA2709174290 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1500 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Text] Two terrorists were killed this afternoon in a clash with the SLA [South Lebanese Army] in the security zone in south Lebanon. The SLA suffered no casualties.

Our correspondent Menahem Horowitz reports that this morning gunfire and RPG's were fired at a Lebanese citizen north of al-Tayyibah in the security zone's central sector. An SLA unit patrolling the area was called in to comb the site. The soldiers located the terrorists and in an exchange of fire two of the terrorists were killed.

Al-Huss Leaves for UN Talks in New York

NC2709185190 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1115 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Text] Prime Minister Dr. Salim al-Huss left for New York today. The Foreign Ministry's secretary general left for Frankfurt, from where he will fly to New York tomorrow to join the Lebanese delegation to the United Nations.

Al-Asad Visit to Tehran, Gulf Crisis Viewed

JN2709194890 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0445 GMT 26 Sep 90

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "The Great Turning Point," the newspaper TISHRIN says: President Hafiz al-Asad's visit to Iran was a good way to show the feelings of friendship and respect of Syria and its president. This has been in the people's mind for the past 10 years. It has given leader al-Asad's visit to Iran a special flavor and created a comfortable atmosphere of mutual trust and readiness for cooperation.

TISHRIN adds: The agenda of the talks was full of important issues of interest to both countries and to the whole world. Of course, at the top of these issues was the serious situation in the Gulf following the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait.

TISHRIN says: The two presidents, al-Asad and Hashemi-Rafsanjani, have discussed all aspects of this crisis deeply and denounced, as noted in the joint statement, the Iraqi regime's occupation of Kuwait, and called for the unconditional withdrawal of the Iraqi forces from this country. The two sides also pointed out that removing the foreign danger from the region can only be achieved after the removal of the cause of the arrival of the foreign forces, namely the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait.

TISHRIN adds: We must say that the proposal for the establishment of a regional security system with the participation of the region's states is a realistic position for protecting Gulf security without foreign intervention, with special emphasis, as President al-Asad said, on the fact that the Iraqi invasion is the cause of the arrival of foreign forces, and that this cause must be tackled to remove its result.

TISHRIN adds: As Presidents al-Asad and Rafsanjani said, the issue of the conflict with Zionism occupied a great part of their talks. This is natural because the Palestine question has been and still is the primary cause of Arabs and Muslims.

TISHRIN says: The two leaders also discussed the Lebanese crisis. The bleeding situation in this country is a deep wound in the body of the entire region. This is why the two leaders called for closing the Lebanese file on the basis of guaranteeing Lebanon's unity and independence.

Concluding, TISHRIN says: In light of this, leader al-Asad's visit has the characteristics of a great historic event, because it opened a new stage in the political situation in the region, created a great qualitative turning point in Iranian-Syrian relations, and gave an example of true Arab-Islamic solidarity.

On the same subject, the newspaper AL-THAWRAH says: Through the joint statement issued yesterday following the conclusion of President Hafiz al-Asad's official and friendly visit to the Islamic Republic of Iran, it was clear that the Syrian-Iranian summit talks covered all issues of common interest and all regional issues, foremost of which are the Arab-Israeli conflict and the Gulf crisis.

AL-THAWRAH adds: The two presidents discussed the Gulf crisis and its developments deeply following the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait, and the great threat this invasion poses to the region's peoples. The two sides also reached a united position denouncing the principle of aggression and stressing that the removal of danger against the region can only be achieved by ending the Iraqi aggression and the foreign presence.

Commentary Urges Iraqi Withdrawal

JN2809105290 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Station commentary]

[Text] Gentlemen: The latest UN Security Council resolution extending the trade embargo of Iraq to the air furnishes fresh evidence that the international community represented by the United States is hell-bent on making Iraq bow to the will of the international community, pull out of Kuwait, and return the situation to what it had been on the eve of 2 August, when the invasion took place.

Through a string of nine UN Security Council resolutions, the international community has conveyed that there is no way the aggressor will be allowed to reap the fruits of its aggression. The international community, meanwhile, has displayed universal consensus against the aggressor right from the beginning of the invasion, through the annexation, to its reprehensible, political, and military conduct—never mind all the slogans raised and pretexts and arguments advanced.

A couple of days ago, Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze warned Iraq against the repercussions of its continued occupation of Kuwait, branding the invasion an act of terror which, if not ended voluntarily, would have to be terminated by UN military action. The Soviet foreign minister pointed out that Moscow is willing to contribute to such a UN force. This means that as Baghdad clings to the accomplished fact of the invasion and its destructive consequences, both for the Iraqi people and the Arab nation at large, the noose around the Iraqi regime grows tighter and tighter.

What are we to make of Iraq's intransigence and wrongheadedness? What are we to make of its rebelliousness in the face of an Arab and international consensus, as well as Arab and UN resolutions passed since the invasion? To say that it is one thing to miscalculate, and quite another to stick to miscalculations, may be stating the obvious. When the mistake turns out to be an enormous, costly adventure detrimental to Iraq and sisterly Kuwait, the determination to pursue it will prove even more compromising to the fortunes of the entire Arab nation.

Apparently counting on residues of the cold war between the two superpowers to buy time, and on illusory cracks in the Arab and international wall of solidarity against the invasion, Iraq has put itself in a box, and the only way out is to submit to the Arab and international will and unconditionally withdraw from Kuwait. It would be neither an act of courage nor wisdom for Iraq to pursue its adventure and continue to fly in the face of the international community. It will be the Arab nation that will suffer the main impact of a new disaster brought on by Iraq's recalcitrance, and it is just not possible for anyone to predict the consequences of such a disaster.

Will Iraq reconsider and comply with Arab and international resolutions before the region, and possibly the world, pays the price for shortsightedness and miscalculation?

Al-Asad in Telephone Contact With Arab Leaders

Confers With Mubarak

JN2709173790 Damascus Syrian Arab Television Network in Arabic 1730 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad and President Husni Mubarak of the Arab Republic of Egypt had a telephone conversation this evening. They talked about Arab affairs and the situation in the region and its developments.

Al-Qadhdhafi Calls

JN2709204090 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2015 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Text] At 2130 today, His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad received a telephone call from Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the 1 September revolution in Libya.

Yemeni Culture Minister Conveys Message on Gulf

JN2709184290 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1415 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Text] At 1300 today, President Hafiz al-Asad received Yemeni Culture Minister Mr. Hasan Ahmad al-Lawzi. The meeting was attended by Nasir Qaddur, minister of state for foreign affairs, and the Yemeni ambassador to Damascus.

Mr. al-Lawzy conveyed to the president a message from Yemeni President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih on the Gulf crisis. The president gave him a message in reply.

Afghanistan

Najibullah Meets Moscow City Officials

LD2709183190 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Excerpt] The press office of the Presidency reported that esteemed Najibullah, president of Afghanistan, met the chairman and members of a delegation of Moscow City Council at the presidency this morning.

Present at this meeting were Muhammad Eshaq Tokhi, presidential aide; Zakim Shah, minister of commerce; and Boris Nikolayevich Pastukhov, ambassador and representative extraordinary of the Soviet Union in Kabul. Esteemed Najibullah spoke about Afghan-Soviet friendly ties, promoting the policy of national reconciliation, developments in the political situation of the country, and the need for expansion of cooperation between Moscow and Kabul cities. [passage omitted]

Cooperation Protocol Established

LD2709202990 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Text] A protocol of cooperation between Kabul and Moscow cities was concluded today in Kabul between the delegations of the Republic of Afghanistan and the Soviet Union.

The protocol was signed and exchanged by ('Abdul Latif Nurzad), deputy mayor of Kabul, and (Solomatin), delegate of Moscow city and chairman of the standing commission for consumer market, food, trade and services sphere of Moscow city, on behalf of their governments in the presence of Boris Nikolayovich Pastukhov, Soviet ambassador in Kabul. [passage indistinct]

Najibullah Discusses Human Rights With UN Envoy

LD2609184290 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 26 Sep 90

[Text] Esteemed Najibullah, president of Afghanistan, met Professor Felix Ermacora, special rapporteur of the UN Human Rights Commission, this afternoon at the headquarters of the presidency.

At this meeting esteemed Najibullah spoke about the country's political situation and progress made in the field of improving human rights in the Republic of Afghanistan.

Rule on Political Party Regulation Abolished

LD2409055890 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0519 GMT 24 Sep 90

[Text] Kabul, Sep. 23, BAKHTAR—In line with the Item 17, Article 75 of the Constitution, abolition of the Resolution No. 159 dated July 16, 1990 of the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Afghanistan (RA) for the approval of the regulation on the establishing, registration and dissolution of political parties which do not correspond with the Constitution and earlier registered is hereby approved, says decree of President Najibullah issued here today. The Higher Council of the Supreme Court as per Item 4 Article 52 of the law on political parties, is authorized to approve a regulation in this connection.

Khaleqyar Discusses Role of Private Sector

LD2609214890 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1630 GMT 26 Sep 90

[Speech by Prime Minister Fazl Haq Khaleqyar opening a seminar entitled "The Role of the Private Sector in the Revival of the National Economy" at the Ariana Hotel in Kabul on 26 September—recorded]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate: Brothers, friends and respected guests. In the name of almighty God and in wishing further ability for national investors in the way of serving the growth of the country's national economy, I open today's seminar. I am pleased to take part at the beginning of the work of our seminar, which highlights the role of the private sector in the reconstruction of Afghanistan.

The economy of Afghanistan from its national viewpoint and character has several aspects, with the private sector along with the state, mixed and cooperative sectors enjoying enormous importance. (?Shortcomings or difficulties) have come about, as a result of the imposed war, in various areas of our country's economy. The government of the Republic of Afghanistan, in order to develop and revive the national economy of the country, has undertaken a series of measures under which serious attention is paid in the areas of encouraging and assisting capital-holders and private investors. As an example the state of the Republic of Afghanistan has begun major measures concerning the expansion of activities of this sector under which the fundamental lines for the growth of the private sector in the economy—which comprise agriculture, trade, industry, transport, construction, and services—have been specified.

The encouragement and (?protection) of activities of the private sector, as a major principle, has been enshrined in the most important legal document of the country, the Constitution of the Republic of Afghanistan. Also a series of important legal documents, such as the law of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry, the law of private internal and foreign investments, changes introduced to the main principles of the organization and tasks of ministries of the Republic of Afghanistan in connection with the development of private sector, the charter of the Economic Consultative Council, the bill on industrial tariffs, the bill on the Central Department for the Encouragement and Development of Private Investments and (?sectoral sections) after 1366 [1987-88] have been enforced and implemented. The results gained from implementing these documents and the policy adopted in connection with the private sector, have been very hopeful. For example a large number of trade companies and industrial production institutes have been allowed to be established after the aforementioned year and a considerable number of them have begun practical functioning. It is sufficient to look at the shares of the national investors that have been approved in this period and of the (?previous) years. The volume of promised investments by the investors since 1365 [20 March 1986-21 March 1987] up to the end of Jawza, 1369 [to 21 June, 1990] adds up to 482 industrial and (?production) projects in Kabul and in the provinces at a sum of 25,793 million Afghanis. This is three times more than in the same period previously. It is worth mentioning that the number of existing private trade companies has reached 1,402 and, in addition, 16,578 traders are active on an individual basis. Activity in other areas which belong to the private sector also enjoys good growth.

The pursuance of the policy of national reconciliation and its sincere implementation by the state of the Republic of Afghanistan has prepared the atmosphere of trust and mutual cooperation, not only between the state and private investors, but between the state of the Republic of Afghanistan and foreign countries too. Changes have been introduced to the Constitution of the Republic of Afghanistan as a result of the widsom and initiative of esteemed Dr. Najibullah, the president of Afghanistan, in accord with the prevailing national and international conditions and in addition to areas of previous activities. These changes have opened completely fresh areas for the private sector which previously had been under state monopoly. For example, national traders and foreign investors could, utilizing the facilities made available, invest in creating banks, insurance, and private and mixed air companies. The growth and expansion of forests and grazing lands and the exploitation of virgin lands under easy conditions have been made available for private investment...

The government, in addition, has commissioned the relevant ministries and departments to readjust existing laws and regulations in conformity with the Constitution and its amendments, and in accordance with the specified standards, and to prepare the draft of these documents for presentation to the Council of Ministers.

I would like to inform you that work is under way for the consideration and completion of formalities for a number of major documents such as legislation in the area of commerce and industries, on private domestic and foreign investments, on [word indistinct] store houses, insurance, mines and industries, and customs charges. In drafting these documents the views and advice of private investors in various areas have been and will be taken. In drafting the law on encouraging domestic private and foreign investments, new amendments have been envisaged in bringing new facilities for foreign investments. Our government has the desire to bring further dynamism in economic activities including the activities of private sector by introducing and implementing legislative documents in conformity with the socio-economic conditions of the country and new international conditions, so that our country can be put on the path of progress and prosperity in a way that will satisfy the wish of society and almighty God.

On behalf of the government of the Republic of Afghanistan and myself, I wish further success for the participants of this seminar, and I hope that the subsequent work of the seminar effects positively the progress and further growth of private sector.

I deem it necessary to recall with appreciation the efforts made by the UNDP [UN Development Program] in Kabul and cooperation by Mr. [name indistinct] for convening this seminar. I ask almighty God to give further victories and prosperity of both worlds to national investors who discharge their national duties [words indistinct] despite difficult conditions stemming from the futile war.

Bangladesh

Government Evacuates Personnel From Iraq Embassy

BK2709133390 Dhaka Overseas Service in English 1230 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Text] Bangladesh has decided to evacuate the nonessential staff and dependents of both diplomats and staff from its embassy in Iraq. Briefing newsmen in Dhaka this afternoon, a Foreign Office spokesman said Ambassador Omar Osman [name as heard] along with diplomats and some essential staff will stay back in Baghdad.

About the reported stoppage of food supplies to foreigners in Iraq from the first of next month, the spokesman said it is a matter of serious concern. He spoke of problems of sending food to Bangladeshis in Kuwait and Iraq in the present circumstances. Regarding the whereabouts of the 2,000 the Bangladeshi nationals reportedly forced to work in Iraqi Army camps, the spokesman said the Iraqi authorities have assured that all Bangladeshis in Iraq will be allowed to leave the country. They, however, rejected the reports that they were compelled to work for the Iraqi Army.

Police Arrest Three in Dhaka Campus Raid

BK2609005490 Hong Kong AFP in English 2020 GMT 25 Sep 90

[Text] Dhaka, Sept 25 (AFP)—Police Tuesday raided some Dhaka University dormitories and arrested three student activists of the student organisation, Jatiyatabadi Chatra Dal (JCD), an official aid. Police seized a shotgun and ammunition in the surprise raid on Zia, Mujib and Jashimuddin halls in the downtown campus, a police spokesman said.

Among those charged with possession of illegal arms was Ilias [last name indistinct] of the JCD, the student wing of the opposition Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) of Begum Khaleda Zia. Mr. Ilias, who leads a faction of the JCD, was freed from jail recently after the supreme court decreed his arrest and detention by police were unlawful.

The JCD was gripped by factional rivalries after it won a landslide victory in the crucial Dhaka University Central Students Union elections held in June. Tuesday's police raid followed renewed factional rivalries in the campus during the weekend when activists exchanged gun shots.

According to unofficial estimates, at least 20 students have been killed and 400 injured since August last year when renewed violence involving other student groups gripped the 68-year-old university, once known as the Oxford of the east.

India

Minister Accuses Pakistan of Training Subversives

BK2709100090 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0730 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Text] The external affairs minister, Mr. I.K. Gujral, has said that despite India's sincere efforts to have better relations with Paksitan, Islamabad is openly training and funding the subversives in Punjab and Kashmir. Addressing the Council of Foreign Relations in New York, he said that New Delhi's relations with other neighbors have improved. He observed that the present state of relationship with Pakistan obstructing India's policy of turning South Asia into a regional friendship. [sentence as heard]

Referring to the current Gulf crisis, the minister called for a political settlement under UN initiative. He said the induction of fresh arms in the region can spill the crisis far beyond.

Troops Kill 17 Crossing to Kashmir From Pakistan

BK2709131690 Hong Kong AFP in English 1150 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Text] Jammu, Sept 27 (AFP)—Twenty-one people, 17 of them attempting to infiltrate into Indian Kashmir from Pakistan and one a police inspector, were killed in violence linked to the Kashmiri separatist campaign, a police spokesman said Thursday. The spokesman said the 17 were shot dead by Indian border troops when they tried to infiltrate into Indian Kashmir from Pakistan under cover of darkness overnight in the Michal, Kel and Gurez sectors of the frontier.

India accuses Pakistan, which has claimed Kashmir since the 1947 partition of the subcontinent, of aiding and training Moslem militants spearheading the independence drive in India's only Moslem majority state. Islamabad denies the charges. The police spokesman said the Central Reserve Force police inspector was one of two paramilitary troopers killed and nine injured in the state in the past 24 hours in skirmishes with the militants and at least one ambush.

Two civilians were reported killed in the crossfire and five others injured. Meanwhile in Srinagar City organisers of a mass strike by 170,000 state government employees, called September 15 throughout the Kashmir valley, said they would stay out until five senior colleagues were reinstated.

The five were dismissed for organizing an earlier strike to protest alleged Indian military and paramilitary atrocities during house to house searches for militants in the violence-torn valley. The killings reported Thursday brought to at least 1,651 the number of people killed in Kashmir in connection with the separatist campaign since the beginning of the year.

Violence, Arson Continue on Job Reservation Issue

BK2709154490 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1430 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Text] Incidents of violence and arson in protest against the Mandal Commission report continued in several parts of northern India today also. There are reports of damage to railway property and disruption of train services. In Uttar Pradesh, two persons were killed and 13 injured in police firing at Baoli village in Meerut District. Demonstrators set on fire some bogies of two trains in Meerut and Ghaziabad. They also set ablaze a bus in Meerut.

In Punjab, indefinite curfew was clamped in Khanna town of Ludhiana District this morning following a clash between the anti and pro Mandal Commission agitators. This brings the total number of towns under curfew in the state to six. Reports of violence, arson, and disruption of traffic have also come in from several parts of the state. In Chandigarh, there will be no night curfew for the second day today. It will however be imposed for six hours from 1000 tomorrow morning.

In Haryana, three more towns of Palwal, Ballabgarh, and Faridabad complex were brought under curfew this afternoon following incidents of arson and stone throwing. Antireservationists set on fire a Rohtak-Delhi passenger train at Ismalia railway station as a result of which eight bogies were completely burned.

In Madhya Pradesh, students staged dharnas in different parts of Chattisgarh region.

In Jammu and Kashmir, the border towns of Punch and Kathua observed bundh [strike] today against the Mandal Commission recommendations. Shops and business establishments were closed and transport was off the road.

In Himachal Pradesh, a college student attempted self-immolation in Mandi town. He has been rushed to the hospital following this and an irate mob burned tow buses. The police had to open fire at two places to bring the situation under control.

In Bihar, the antireservationists set on fire two bogies of Harihar Express of Northeastern Railway at the outer signal [post] of Manhar Road railway station, 30 km away from Hajipur in Vaishali District. One first class compartment was completely burned.

In the capital, the police resorted to firing at two places in the east and southwest Delhi to disperse a violent mob today. One person was killed and six injured in the firing. According to the police, the mob set on fire some vehicles and indulged in looting and brickbatting. Five policemen including one assisstant commissioner of police sustained injuries in stone throwing. The police said that there was sporadic incidents of violence, road blocks and traffic hold-ups in east and west Delhi. Another school student attempted self-immolation in west Delhi today and was immediately rushed to the Safdarjanf Hospital. Dr. Srivastav, the head of the burns department, said the boy is out of danger.

The home minister, Mufti Muhammad Sayeed, reviewed the law and order situation in Delhi at a high-level meeting this evening with the lieutenant governor, Mr. Arjun Singh, and other senior officials. He also spoke to Haryana chief minister, Mr. Hukum Singh, on telephone.

The BJP [Bharatiya Janata Party] has urged the government to adopt an open mind on the issues now agitating the students. In a statement issued in New Delhi today, he said: To defuse the situation the government should express its willingness to keep in abeyance the implementation of the Mandal Commission's recommendations pending the Supreme Court judgment.

Party Says No Leadership Change Due to Agitation

BK2709170590 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Text] Several senior Janata Dal leaders today ruled out any change in the leadership of the National Front parliamentary party because of the anti-reservation agitation. The Janata Dal president, Mr. S.R. Bommai, said the question of leadership change does not arise and added all rumors in this connection are baseless. Approached by reporters in the capital this evening, other senior leaders, including Mr. Chandra Shekhar, Mr. Chiman Bhai Patel and Mr. Biju Patnaik, also discounted such speculations. Hectic efforts are reported to be on among the top Janata Dal leaders to find a way out of the impasse on the reservation issue. According to the party president, all alternatives are being discussed without affecting the government decision on the issue.

The Janata Dal president today said that he has commenced the negotiations process with the representatives of the students community to defuse the situation arising out of the anti-reservation agitation. He told newsmen that he is approaching the issue with an open mind and without any precondition. Educational authorities have been contacted to persuade the students to come forward for a dialogue. The Anti-Mandal Commission Forum, however, today rejected the Prime Minister Mr. V.P. Singh's offer for talks with the agitating students. It reiterated its demand for immediate withdrawal of the reservation based on the Mandal Commission report. Meanwhile, leaders of several political parties have appealed to the students not to resort to extreme steps like self-immolation. Expressing anguish over the widespread incidents of arson and violence, they said there is an immediate need to create a proper atmosphere for resolving the issue. There have also been demands from some quarters that the government should suspend the implementation of the Mandal Commission report for the time being.

Two general secretaries of the Congress-I, Mr. H.K.L. Bhagat and Mr. Mahavir Prasad, in a joint statement criticized the prime minister for what they called his unwillingness to deal with the growing crisis.

Commentary Asserts U.S.-Iraq Base of Crisis

BK2709144290 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1010 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Commentary by Virendra Mohan: "The U.S. Dilemma and the Gulf War"]

[Text] The war-nerves between the United States and Iraq and the manipulation by America at the United Nations confirm that it is a conflict between the United States and Iraq. Mr. Husayn charges that the United States is trying to dictate and impose its views on the world is not without truth. Mr. Baker and Defense Secretary Cheney are already speaking of a permanent American presence in the region which can hardly be reconciled with the limited UN objectives of defending Saudi Arabia, liberating Kuwait, and freeing the hostages. The evidence of such intentions include Washington's writing off a loan of $7 billion to get Egypt to contain Iraq and the U.S. decision to beef up Saudi Arabia's military machine by presenting it with an arms gift of $20 billion. Everything seems to suggest that Washington is giving up peaceful options. A war with quick results is the interest of U.S. and other Western countries. Even the UN trade sanctions will take very long to affect Saddam adversely due to leakages.

The defense adviser of President Bush and other political [as heard] analyze that the matter has been asking for immediate military action, because the more it is delayed, the weaker the Western case becomes. It will also cost more in terms of men and materiel to the U.S. and other Western countries. Iraq seems determined more than ever to keep Kuwait to itself. Its latest initiative to integrate Kuwait—change of currency, declaration of Kuwait as a province of Iraq, and other measures—speak of Iraq's defiance of world opinion. Even abortive attempts on Husayn's life and American threat from time to time to destroy Iraq have not deterred Iraq from its mission. In fact, Iraq has no intention, much less immediate, to attack Saudi Arabia. It has taken defense action to retain Kuwait. Even taking Westerners as hostages by Saddam's regime was not provocative move, but a defensive measure—maybe a desperate one and a signal to the Western powers to stop pressing it further back to the wall.

Saddam's main concern today is how to avert a war which will definitely lead to his defeat and whatnot. The strategy he adopted include patching up with Tehran to get about 3 lakh [100,000] Iraq soldiers free from the duty of guarding the border with Iran and deploying them to Baghdad's military deterrents along with [as heard] Saudi Arabian borders. The other defensive measures are holding the Westerners in Iraq and Kuwait as hostages and putting them as shield at military and oil installations and launching a propaganda war linking the issue of Kuwait and that of Israel-occupied territories as to draw Arab sympathy on one hand and to suggest a nearly impossible bargain if UN-meditated negotiations or NAM [Nonaligned Movement] initiative to bring peace in the region fails. [sentence as heard]

The Israeli military brass has already started spending sleepless nights over the increasing Saudi military potential. The reasons are clear that the political upheaval that is bound to take place in the Arab states from the quest of resurgence there of Arab nationalism is bound to affect the very existence of Israel. The $20-billion arms deal between the United States and Saudi Arabia is bound to change the balance in favor of the West Asian Arab states. Once the crisis is resolved in a manner satisfactory to the West and the powers external to the region extricate themselves the momento of the nationalist forces unleashed by Iraqi leaders is bound to put the Arab potentials in hot seas.

The Americans on the other hand are itching to foil these attempts. The USA has to some extent managed the active support of France, Japan, and other NATO countries for its more than holy actions against Saddam, but has failed on winning back Iran. The chances of Iran coming out openly against Baghdad despite patronage offered by European Community are remote. Baghdad after releasing the Iranian POW's [prisoners of war] and accepting the deal of tactical friendship which gave Iran back the rights to the waterways of Shatt al-Arab has blunted American efforts. America will better carry the world opinion with it before attempting to tame Saddam Husayn of Iraq.

Parliament To Meet on President's Rule in Punjab

BK2209135190 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 22 Sep 90

[Text] Both the houses of parliament will meet for a brief session from the first of next month. The session is likely to conclude on Friday the 5th of October. Our correspondent says parliament will consider a constitutional amendment during its three sittings to enable extension of president's rule in Punjab beyond the 10th of November. According to a press communique issued in New Delhi, the brief session has been described as the second part of the monsoon session of the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha.

Council Meeting Discusses Major National Issues

BK2209134490 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 22 Sep 90

[Text] The prime minister has said that there is a feeling that the situation in Punjab is not right for elections and there should be political and other initiatives before going in for elections in the state. Mr. V.P. Singh was, however, of the opinion there is no way out of the Punjab problem except by restoring the democratic process. The prime minister made these observations while inaugurating the National Integration Council meeting in Madras today.

The prime minister said the issues of Punjab and Jammu and Kashmir cannot be viewed as a law and order problem. The administration in Jammu and Kashmir has been able to establish its authority in the state against the terrorists. The prime minister asserted that the nation should address itself to the problems of the youth, particularly the educated unemployed. On the Ram Janam Bhoomi-Babri Masjid issue [shrine claimed by Hindu and Muslim communities], Mr. V.P. Singh said that efforts are being made to arrive at an amicable settlement.

The home minister, Mufti Mohammad Sayeed, in his address said there are definite though faint signs of improvement in the Kashmir situation. Considerable success has been achieved in the antiterrorist drive. The mufti expressed the hope that the challenges and dangers facing the country can be successfully met with the cooperation of all people concerned. Praising the efforts of the committee on the promotion of communal harmony, the home minister disclosed that two more committees—one on the media and the other on education—will be set up.

The Uttar Pradesh chief minister, Mr. Mulayam Singh Yadev, while clarifying his stand on the Ram Janam Bhoomi-Babri Masjid issue, reiterated that his government will abide by the court verdict. Addressing the meeting, the Tamil Nadu chief minister, Mr. Karunanidhi, urged the center to declare all the languages listed in the eighth schedule of the Constitution as official languages. The Punjab governor, Mr. Virendra Verma, said that the people of Punjab deserve the nation's sympathy and appreciation for the manner in which they have conducted themselves amid grave provocations.

The AIR special correspondent, Devaprasad Das, understands that several speakers in the meeting emphasized the need for a national consensus on issues threatening the integrity of the country. They expressed the view that it's the solemn duty of the National Integration Council to evolve a set of guidelines as the nation's response to the misguided elements working against the unity of the country.

Earlier, immediately on his arrival at Madras airport this morning, the prime minister drove straight to the venue of the meeting. Our Madras correspondent, Joesph Chandra Kumar, reports that 125 members, union ministers, chief ministers, leaders of various political parties, and prominent personalities are taking part in the deliberations. As reported earlier, the BJP [Bharatiya Janata Party] yesterday announced its decision not to participate in the meeting. The present meeting, the second in the series after the broad-based National Integration Council was set up, is being held for the first time outside the capital.

Bangladesh Signs Agreement To Reopen Railway

BK2409022190 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 23 Sep 90

[Text] India and Bangladesh have signed an agreement to reopen the broad-guage railway line between Singhabad in India and Rohanpur in Bangladesh for goods traffic from the 1st of next month. The broad-gauge rail line, which remained nonopertive for two decades, was relaid recently.

AIR [All India Radio] Dhaka correspondent, Sanat Mukherjee, reports the reopening of the 12-km-long rail link will relieve pressure on the congested (Gaede Darshana) rail route.

Cooperation Accord Signed With Seychelles 24 Sep

BK2409170290 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 24 Sep 90

[Text] India and the Seychelles have agreed to increase cooperation in the fields of civil aviation and petroleum. A memorandum of understanding to this effect between the two countries were signed after the meeting of the first Indo-Seychelles joint commission in New Delhi this afternoon. The two countries have identified specific areas of cooperation in the field of civil aviation. There would be further technical discussions between the Oil and Natural Gas Commission and the Seychelles National Oil Company for drawing up specific plans for the petroleum sector. The two countries have also agreed to encourage joint ventures particularly in tourism and rural industry. India has extended its credit of 2.5 crore rupees to seychelles for buying capital goods.

Iran

Diplomatic Relations Resume With United Kingdom

LD2709155290 Tehran IRNA in English 1529 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Text] Tehran, Sep. 27, IRNA—The Islamic Republic of Iran and Britain resumed diplomatic relations as of Thursday after a year and a half of severed ties over London's stand on the Satanic [Verses] issue.

Both countries have agreed to resume their relations on the basis of mutual respect and will reopen their respective embassies in London and Tehran within a month.

The Majlis (parliament) ordered the severance of ties with London in the first week of March of 1989 after serving a week-long ultimatum to Britain for its support for sentenced apostate Salman Rushdie, who authored the blasphemous novel "The Satanic Verses" under pretext of freedom of speech.

The Majlis ruled that Britain should condemn Rushdie's sedition, give up supporting him and respect Muslims' beliefs if relations are to be normalized.

At the end of the ultimatum, British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher and the then Foreign Secretary Geoffrey Howe announced what they called the London government's deep respect for Islam and even the latter implicitly apologized.

But the Majlis and Iranian officials did not see the statements by the British premier and foreign secretary adequate and thus Tehran broke off its ties with London.

However, British officials seemed to have realized their error over the issue, and of late have begun issuing statements of respect for the beliefs of Muslims and have even questioned the wisdom of supporting apostate Rushdie at the British tax-payers' expense, thus removing the impediments for resumption of ties with Tehran.

Spokesman Denies Troops Sent to Saudi Arabia

LD2709193690 Tehran IRNA in English 1807 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Text] Tehran, Sep. 27, IRNA—A Foreign Ministry spokesman on Thursday categorically rejected Western media allegations that the Islamic [Republic] had dispatched troops to Saudi Arabia to join forces from other countries assembling in that country. The spokesman said that certain segments of the Western media have reported the despatch of Iranian troops to Saudi Arabia, misquoting President Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani. "Such claims are totally baseless," he added. "Iran's sending of troops to Saudi Arabia was never brought up, before, during or after the visit to Tehran of Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad," he said. The Islamic Republic has condemned both the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait and the intrusion of U.S. led forces in the Persian Gulf region.

Besharati, Kuwaiti Minister Discuss Gulf Crisis

LD2709182190 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 27 Sep 90

[Text] Shaykh Nasir Muhammad al-Ahmad, Kuwaiti minister of state for foreign affairs, is carrrying a message from the amir of Kuwait for Hashemi-Rafsanjani. He arrived in Tehran this morning as head of a delegation.

This afternoon he met Besharati, our country's senior deputy minister of foreign affairs, at the Ministry of

Foreign Affairs. They held discussions and exchanged views on the latest developments in the Persian Gulf crisis and Iraq's occupation of Kuwait.

He explained the situation in Kuwait and in the region, and congratulated the Islamic Republic of Iran for having attained its rights. Shaykh Nasir Muhammad al-Ahmad expressed his appreciation of Iran's principled stands on these issues. He then said that through this problem we came to know our friends as well as our enemies. Undoubtedly, future relations between the two countries, as well as relations between regional countries and the Islamic Republic of Iran, will blossom better based on this appreciation. We would like to see relations between the Islamic Republic of Iran and the countries of the region expand and strengthen more than ever before.

Our country's senior deputy minister of foreign affairs also explained the principled stands of the Islamic Republic of Iran toward the recent crisis. Our condemnation of the occupation of Kuwait arose from our Islamic and humane stands. We oppose any kind of aggression in the region, whether from Iraq or alien forces. No regional security can be efficient and successful without the powerful presence of the Islamic Republic of Iran. The countries of the region can provide security for the region through cooperation among themselves, without the presence of foreigners.

Velayati Meets With Genscher, Discusses Gulf

LD2709181990 Tehran Television Service in Persian 1600 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Text] Mr. Velayati, who is in New York to take part in the 45th UN General Assembly, has held a number of bilateral meetings. So far, he has met with the foreign ministers of Japan, West Germany, Finland, Zambia, Algeria, France, Argentina, and Brazil. The minister of foreign affairs of our country also met with the president of the General Assembly and the UN secretary general.

In his meeting with [West Germany's] Mr. Hans-Dietrich Genscher, Mr. Velayati expressed the displeasure of the Islamic Republic of Iran regarding the presence of U.S. forces in the Persian Gulf region. The West German minister of foreign affairs told the minister of foreign affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran that the presence of U.S. forces in the Persian Gulf is solely due to the Iraqi aggression against Kuwait, and those forces do not intend to remain in the region. Mr. Velayati once again condemned the occupation of Kuwait by Iraq and called for the withdrawal of Baghdad's forces from Kuwait as soon as possible. The minister of foreign affairs of our country last night also met with Mr. Sam Nujoma, the president of Namibia.

Velayati Reiterates Stance on Gulf Crisis at UN

NC2809073890 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] Foreign Minister Dr. Velayati explained Iran's principled stand on the Gulf crisis at a gathering attended by the UN secretary general, the foreign ministers of more than 20 countries, and 80 ambassadors of various countries in New York. Our colleague reports:

[Begin unidentified correspondent's recording]: The Islamic Republic of Iran has expressed its complete willingness to cooperate and coordinate in all international efforts for attaining a political solution to the Persian Gulf crisis. Foreign Minister Dr. Velayati, who addressed a gathering of the UN secretary general, 24 foreign ministers, and 80 ambassadors of various countries, said: The Islamic Republic of Iran is opposed to the presence of, and intervention by, foreign forces in the Persian Gulf region, and believes that the security of the region can be maintained only with the cooperation and participation of the countries of the Persian Gulf region.

He added: We believe that the only way to resolve the present crisis is with Iraq's unconditional and swift withdrawal from Kuwait. The Islamic Republic of Iran will not officially recognize the annexation of even a part of Kuwait to Iraq.

While expressing his appreciation of the UN secretary general's untiring efforts in resolving the world's problems, especially in ending the Iran-Iraq war, Dr. Velayati said to him: Your efforts during the two years of peace talks between the Islamic Republic of Iran and Iraq finally ended with the formulation of principles and legal norms, especially Iraq's re-endorsement of the 1975 Accord. However, your responsibility regarding Resolution 598 has not yet ended.

Speaking on his contacts with the Islamic Republic of Iran's officials including Dr. Velayati himself, Mr. Javier Perez de Cuellar, the UN secretary general replied: I have always lauded your categorical stance on the defense of your country's interests, as well as your deep comprehension of the other side's stance. I appreciate your cooperation in the implementation of the substance of Resolution 598.

Regarding the Persian Gulf crisis, the UN secretary general said: I am still optimistic about resolving the present crisis amicably, by political means. I believe that resolving the issue this way will exert a positive effect on the longstanding problems of the Middle East.

From the correspondent dispatched by the Information and News Unit, New York. [end recording]

Meets With Counterparts

NC2809090090 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] The foreign ministers of the PRC, Austria, Denmark, the Netherlands, Yugoslavia, Mongolia, Bangladesh, Ghana, and Bahrain held individual meetings with Dr. Velayati, our foreign minister, at the UN Headquarters in New York yesterday.

During these meetings, they discussed the situation in the region, mutual ties, and international issues. The foreign ministers of the aforementioned countries stressed Iran's strategic importance in the region, and said they appreciated the Islamic Republic of Iran's support of the UN Security Council resolutions in the present crisis.

The PRC, Yugoslavian, and Mongolian foreign ministers declared their respective countries' support for the Islamic Republic of Iran in opposing the presence of foreign forces in the region, and emphasized Iran's constructive and important role in the Persian Gulf region. These foreign ministers also expressed their satisfaction at the basic measures taken to implement UN Security Council Resolution 598, for the resolution of the problems between Iran and Iraq, and sought Iran's views on the situation in the region. During the meetings bilateral ties, and ways and means of their deepening and broadening were discussed and reviewed.

Referring to the serious opposition of the government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the continued presence of foreign forces in the Persian Gulf region, Dr. Velayati said: Having foreign forces stationed in the region is unacceptable to our people. He considered the best way out of the present crisis was a peaceful solution, which he said was possible only with the unconditional and complete withdrawal of Iraq from Kuwait.

Our foreign minister said the establishment of a regional system with the cooperation of all the littoral states of the Persian Gulf was the only way to insure the region's stability and security.

Commentary Views Latest Sanctions Against Iraq

NC2809060290 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Central News Unit Research Group commentary]

[Excerpts] In the name of God.
On 25 September the UN Security Council held a special session and adopted Resolution 670, approving a stringent air embargo against Iraq. In this resolution, the ninth Security Council resolution pertaining to the occupation of Kuwait by Iraq, all countries are requested to prevent flights of all kinds of aircraft from their airports to Iraq and Kuwait, as well as to prohibit the use of their airspace by aircraft originating from or destined for Iraq and Kuwait. Thus, all activity pertaining to land, air, and sea transport bound for Iraq and Kuwait or coming from those countries will come under this international embargo. The adoption of this resolution, more than anything else, indicates the unanimity of the international community's opinion regarding the illicit measures by the Iraqi regime. [passage omitted]

The importance of the latest session is symbolic in itself. That is, it signifies the unanimity of international opinion. In the view of most experts, the essence of this session is in itself comparatively more important than the adoption of the resolution, especially since the convocation of the foreign ministers of the Security Council member countries had been proposed by the Soviet Union last week.

Only Cuba and the Ivory Coast did not send their foreign ministers to the UN Security Council session and contented themselves with the participation of their representatives. The solitary vote against this resolution was cast by the Cuban representative.

The adoption of this resolution is aimed at tightening the dragnet of the political and economic embargo against Iraq and is a step toward the gradual implementation of Article 41 of the UN Charter in the reduction and severance of political and economic ties with Iraq.

The UN Security Council is endeavoring to block the path for taking any military actions against Iraq in the event of this country's insistence on continuing its occupation of Kuwait.

Experts believe that the latest session of the Security Council, with the presence of the members countries' foreign ministers, was a display of strength to convince Iraq to end its obduracy and instistence on usurpation; otherwise the UN Resolution 670, in practice, does not bring about any fundamental changes. Iraq is already in the throes of a multilateral embargo, including an air embargo. Flights which have taken place until now have been exceptions, which are stipulated in Resolution 670.

This resolution exempts those flights which are carried out on humanitarian bases, including flights carrying pharmaceuticals, foodstuffs, or for evacuation of foreigners from Iraq and Kuwait, as well as flights of UN observer groups stationed in the Iran-Iraq border areas.

However, despite the announcement of this embargo, countries do not have the right to shoot down any civilian aircraft, in accordance with the substance of the Chicago convention. Thus, the guarantee for the implementation of the air embargo, as with the land embargo, is limited by how the UN member countries, in particular those which are Iraq's neighbors, adhere to the embargo.

Most of the countries, especially Iraq's neighbors, have sustained unbearable economic losses with the adoption of resolutions for such embargoes. Most of these countries had lucrative markets for their commodities in Iraq and Kuwait, and these have now been lost. In addition, most of these countries have been deprived of all economic opportunities. [passage omitted]

The majority of the experts believe that with the adoption of the two resolutions, 669 and 670, it is too farfetched to expect any fundamental changes in the present balance of power, especially because Iraq displayed a violent reaction prior to the adoption of these resolutions, terming them inhuman and bullying acts.

In any case, these experts believe that the adoption of Resolution 670, is among the final measures that the UN Security Council could take toward resolving the Persian Gulf crisis in an amicable manner.

President Meets Jordan Muslim Brotherhood Leader

LD2709200490 Tehran Television Service in Persian 1600 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Text] A delegation of Islamic movement leaders, headed by 'Abd-al-Rahman Khalifah, leader of the Jordanian Muslim Brotherhood, held talks this afternoon with President Hashemi-Rafsanjani. The meeting started with members giving reports on their activities in the region and stressing the importance of the Islamic Republic of Iran's role in solving the problems facing the area. They further stressed Iran's importance in supporting the Islamic 'ummah.

Qadi Husayn Hamid representing the Jami'af-e Eslami of Pakistan said at this meeting: We expect the Islamic Republic, as the sole Islamic school in the world, to lead the Islamic movements and the Muslim masses. Hashemi-Rafsanjani thanked the Islamic movements delegation leaders for their efforts on solving problems in the Islamic world. He remarked that we consider ourselves the standard-bearers of the anti-arrogance and anti-U.S. struggles and we have proved this through all periods.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani stressed that when the United States adopted their long-term security plans for the region, His Eminance Ayatollah Khamene'i, leader of the Islamic revolution, issued the order of a jihad against U.S. forces. This shows the fundamental policy of the Islamic Republic.

Our country's president addressed the leaders of the Islamic movements. He said that you can discover the meaning of anti-Americanism in tomorrow's march of the people. In conclusion Hashemi-Rafsanjani said that the gathering of Islamic personalities is an appropriate opportunity for the further expansion of unity among world Muslims. [video shows Muslim leaders seated, speaking to Hashemi-Rafsanjani; Hashemi-Rafsanjani addressing group]

Khamene'i Meets With Islamic Association Leaders

LD2709205590 Tehran Television Service in Persian 1600 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Text] This morning His Eminence Ayatollah Khamene'i, leader of the Islamic revolution and the Muslims' vali-ye amr [guardian of the cause], met with a delegation of Islamic association leaders from a number of Arabic and Islamic countries. He asked them to be vigilant against the policies of the global arrogance and emphasized the Islamic Republic of Iran's perpetual struggle against the United States, the al-Quds occupying regime [Israel], and reactionary regimes.

His Eminence Ayatollah Khamene'i hopes that these gatherings will benefit Islam and Muslims. He said that the gathering of Islamic thinkers and devoted politicians, who do not consider politics separate from religion, can be an auspicious act toward creating a central cell for a real Islamic assembly and strengthen fraternal ties between Muslim nations.

The Muslims' vali-ye amr said that cultural policies domination and the increasing power of the global arrogance spearheaded by the United States are the biggest threats facing Islam and Muslims. During the past 12 years or so the Islamic Republic of Iran has been in an oppressed and isolated position, but powerful as a result of its reliance on God. It has risen against the United States, the Zionist regime, and their loyal reactionaries. In that struggle our goal was to safeguard and rescue Islam and now we are confident enough to stand firmly against any threat facing Islam and the Islamic Republic.

The leader of the Islamic revolution stressed the need for a vigilant movement and the Islamic world's uprising against the global infidelity. The situation of Islam in Egypt, Sudan, Iran, the Middle East, and Sub-Saharan Africa shows that the Islamic resurrection and the uprising today are important issues to Muslims. The awakened Muslim nations are not content with anything but an Islamic government and that itself is a sign of their Islamic feelings and intelligence. In this situation any ignorance or simple-mindedness cannot be forgiven by God and history.

The Muslims' vali-ye amr referred to the Islamic awakening and optimism as the most valuable divine blessing to the Islamic 'ummah and stressed the need for Muslims to avoid lining up against each other. Islamic unity is an important issue which can be realized through the establishment of relations between Muslim spiritual leaders. We welcome all those who endeavor to create an Islamic solidarity with the aim of serving Islam and defending Muslim interests. We will not relax our struggle. At the height of the war too we stressed the slogan: Today Iran, tomorrow Palestine. We did not forget the oppressed Muslim nation of Palestine.

His Eminence Ayatollah Khamene'i regards Islam as the greatest divine blessing for the Iranian nation. We consider Islam a very dear and valuable blessing because when the strongest anti-Islamic fortifications were built in this country almighty God established the Islamic structure in Iran. We always praise God for the reflections of the oppressed cry of our Muslim nation throughout the world and for the manifestation of the devoted, pious, and competent character of our late imam to the people of the world.

The leader insisted that the goal of the Islamic revolution should be pure Mohammadam Islam against the will and wishes of the arrogant and reactionaries. Our Islam is Islam of the jihad and martyrdom. Our nation has stepped on this path completely prepared and we hope to be admitted to God's presence.

In conclusion, the leader of the Islamic revolution urged the Muslim personalities present at the meeting to rely on God and shun raising issues which result in discord. He urged them to elaborate on God's support for those who are patient and promised them the definite defeat of the United States on Islamic territories.

Khamene'i Advises Hezbollah To Ensure Solidarity

LD2709172790 Tehran Television Service in Persian 1600 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Text] His Eminence Ayatollah Khamene'i, the honorable leader of the Islamic revolution and the muslims' vali-ye amr [guardian of the cause], received the leadership cadre of the Lebanese Hezbollah this morning. Addressing them with his guidelines, he stressed the necessity of shunning internal Muslim disputes and bloodshed, in particular among the Lebanese Shi'a society.

The honorable leader spoke on the extraordinary importance and sensitivity that the Islamic Republic of Iran attaches to Lebanese issues. After warning the al-Quds [Jerusalem] occupying regime [Israel] against taking any advantage of the current situation in that country, he said: The solidarity of the people of Lebanon, and in particular the Shi'as, is very important and significant, and the Hezbollah of Lebanon can play an important role in building and the safeguarding this solidarity and unity.

At the end of his remarks, the Muslims' vali-ye amr added: We consider the shedding of blood within the Lebanese Muslim community and in particular the Shi'as, as a negative and undesirable action which should be avoided.

According to the same report, before the honorable leader spoke, the leadership cadre of the Lebanese Hezbollah gave a report on the current situation in that country and also elaborated on Islamic activities and movements against the al-Quds occupying regime.

Hamas Praises Khamene'i Declaration on Gulf

LD2809091590 Tehran IRNA in English 0742 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] London Sep, 28, [dateline as received]—The Palestine 'Islamic Resistance Movement' (Hamas) has "praised" the recent declaration by Ayatollah 'Ali Khamene'i, that resisting any permanent American build-up or attempt to establish a permanent Western security force in the Middle East, is jihad.

In a statement received by IRNA in London Thursday afternoon, Hamas also called for a "peace" solution to the crisis in the Persian Gulf "in an Islamic/Arab framework and based upon the withdrawal of foreign forces and the giving to the Kuwaiti people their right to self-determination and choice of rule".

It added that the Islamic Resistance Movement considers the blockade against Iraq, "which aims to starve our children and deny our sick essential medicine" as yet "another crime against humanity".

It went on to praise "the stand of the leaders of the Islamic movements" who it says are "trying to find a solution to the crisis, away from Western influence". And it condemned the Soviet position on the issue, saying that the USSR is "proving again to be a party to the American plot".

Hamas has called on Palestinians in the occupied land of Palestine, especially the West Bank and Gaza, to protest on Sunday 14th October on "the anniverary of the Qebya massacre" against the continued presence of the "crusading forces" in the Persian Gulf.

On Wednesday the 12th of Rabi' Awwal (the day on which Sunni Muslims celebrate the birthday of the prophet), Hamas has called for "a day of celebrations on the occasion of the birth of the leader of the mujahideen, Prophet Muhammad" and called on the people to "follow him".

In addition, the organisation has requested that during the month of October, "the boycott of Israeli goods (by Palestinians) should continue". The Hamas statement also says that they will give shopkeepers in Palestine "until the end of the month to clear their shops of American goods that have a national alternative".

Khamene'i Gives Message To Mark Martyrs Day

LD2709140890 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1245 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Message by the esteemed leader of the Islamic revolution, His Eminence Ayatollah Khamene'i, on the occasion of the Martyrs' Day—read by announcer]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Greetings to the pure souls of the blood-stained martyrs of the Islamic revolution and the holy defense; greetings to the martyrs who have rolled in the dust but whose bodies are not to be found; and God's salutations and blessings upon the expectant hearts of mothers and fathers, and wives and children who, for years, remained in anticipation of seeing their missing dear ones, never to receive news from them.

Now that the Iranian nation has celebrated the arrival of the Azadegan [returning POW's], thankfully prostrating themselves before the threshold of the victory-giving almighty God, it is appropriate to commemorate, more gratefully than ever before, the memory of our esteemed martyrs, who paved the way for the present pride and greatness by selflessly sacrificing their lives. It is also appropriate for the Iranian nation to remind themselves of the debts it owes to the patient and thankful families of the martyrs.

The martyrs gave their lives to proudly uphold the banner of Islam, which was hoisted in our land by the able hand of our great leader. His Eminence Imam Khomeyni; may his status be higher. Thus, they endeared Islam spiritually to all corners of the world.

If today you can hear the cry of Islam from the four corners of the world; if today the Muslim nations have returned to their Islamic identity, and feel the heavy burden of the dominance of the arrogance; and if the Islamic jihad, after being forgotten for years, has again returned to its lofty valuable status, it is all due to the blessed establishment of the Islamic Republic and the continuation of the Islamic revolution, which in turn is all due to the martyrdom and self-sacrifice of these dear ones and their families. It also owes much to our great and dear disabled.

Our nation must be able to appreciate the value of the dear ones; the nation must guard the fruits of their sacrifices. The nation must calculate all the successes and victories through the measurement of the value of their esteemed lives and their immense patience.

I beseech the great God to uplift yet higher the status of his eminence the late great Imam, who was the initiator of jihad and resistance. I ask the great God to give happiness to the immaculate souls of the martyrs; patience and heart-felt relief to their grieved and expectant families; recovery to the dear disabled; and perseverence to all the Iranian nation. I also seek the happiness and guidance of his holiness the great deputy to God [the 12th imam] may our souls be sacrificed for him. Greetings and God's blessing to you all.

[Signed] Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i.
[Dated] 27 September 1990

Tehran Radio Reports on 'Unity, Victory' March

NC2809085690

[Editorial report] Tehran Domestic Service in Persian at 0510 GMT on 28 September announces that on the last day of Holy Defense Week correspondents from Tehran will be reporting on the "Unity, Victory" march, "a grand exhibition of our national solidarity to the world" which will end at the Tehran prayerground. Telephone numbers are announced for those who wish to contact the various radio centers.

Martial music and patriotic songs interspersed with verses paying tributes to martyrs and the valiant Iranian nation continue, and are still in progress at 0730 GMT. The Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran correspondents present live eye-witness reports on the progress of the march from various parts of the city.

At 0520 GMT the marchers, who according to the correspondents are carrying placards denouncing presence of foreign forces in the region, can be heard shouting "God is Great!", "Death to America!", "Death to Israel!" At 0525 GMT, the announcer says that a roving correspondent is presenting the telephone report on the march. The correspondent says that this mammoth victory march is symbolic of the country's constant presence on the scene, and is "an opportunity for the nation to announce its stance on the attack on Kuwait, followed by the U.S. forces' hasty departure to take up positions in Saudi Arabia. We have seen how they have defiled our sacred lands, the land of divine revelations, just as they did in Jerusalem, by bringing corruption, devastation, godlessness, and debauchery to that hallowed region. This has naturally wounded the hearts of all the Muslims. It is a source of shame for the rulers of these countries that they have stooped to this disgrace merely out of fear of losing their inauspicious crowns and thrones, and have belied their claims of being the guardians of the two holy mosques."

At 0600 GMT, correspondents from the various cities including Gilan and Ilam interview pedestrians and ask them the reasons for participation in the march. In answer to a question by a Tehran correspondent, a marcher says that it is a source of joy that the POW's have returned to the country and "Iran's victory is complete, and the resonant cries of" Death to America!" will echo in disavowal of these criminals" "their military presence will be defeated."

Other marchers interviewed at 0630 GMT say "it is an occasion for rejoicing that Iran has been victorious" and pay tributes to martyrs and the POW's, and can be heard shouting slogans denouncing "the criminal United States that has set up house in the Holy lands of the Muslims" More patriotic songs, praise of the Armed forces, recitation continue and at 0700 GMT, the Esfahan correspondent reports on the "massive gathering of men, women, and children, converging toward the Friday congregation venue."

Commentary Reviews March

LD2709145290 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1112 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Tomorrow, the last day of Holy Defense Week, the Muslim people of Iran will attend the nationwide march of unity and victory in order to celebrate the realization of Iran's conditions and its victory after 10 years of jihad and resistance, and to condemn the presence of the alien forces in the Persian Gulf region, which threatens the region's peace and stability.

This year, Holy Defense Week is celebrated at a time when circumstances are different from previous years. After 10 years of resistance the flag of victory is hoisted in our country, and the people are delighted with this victory. Ten years ago Iraq abrogated the 1975 [Algerian]

Treaty and plunged our country into an unwanted war. But this year it recognized the validity of this treaty as a basis for resumption of ties and paved the way for peaceful relations between Iran and Iraq. Thanks to Iraq's acceptance of the 1975 treaty, Iran's demands were realized, and implementation of other articles of Resolution 598 were made possible. As a result, the Iraqi forces withdrew from 2,500 square kilometer of occupied Iranian territory, and more than 35,000 POW's returned to the embrace of the Islamic homeland. A comparison of the situation today with what the enemy wanted 10 years ago shows that the enemy has accepted Iran's demands without realizing any of the claims it was raising 10 years ago. This victory demonstrates the might and capability of the Islamic Republic.

On the other hand, the Persian Gulf crisis has created certain conditions whereby our country, in view of its position in this region, cannot remain indifferent to these conditions. The Iraqi invasion of Kuwait on 2 August provided the United States and its allies with the excuse to deploy forces in the Persian Gulf region. The alien states, headed by the United States, are justifying their presence in the Persian Gulf region with the objective of preventing Iraq from attacking [saudi] Arabia, and also forcing Iraq to withdraw from Kuwait. But it is clear that it is seeking its own interests and wishes to take control of this region's vital resources. It would even sacrifice the people of the region in order to realize these objectives. As a result, the Persian Gulf crisis is seriously threatening the region's security.

The Islamic Republic, in accordance with its firm and unchanging principles in foreign policy, immediately in the wake of the crisis, condemned the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait and the dispatch of foreign forces to the region, and declared that aggression is condemned in whatever form. One cannot eliminate aggression by aggression. The people of the region should be allowed to solve the region's crisis so they can remove it by taking into consideration their own interests. Nevertheless, the concentration of military forces in the region has pushed the Persian Gulf to the brink of war. In view of these circumstances, those governments which before the invasion of Kuwait were backing Iraq to attack the Islamic Republic, have today confessed to their mistakes and have been forced to agree with most of the previous stances of the Islamic Republic.

The fact that the Islamic Republic's righteous stance has been proved makes us more determined to continue our path and to remain more committed to the principles of our revolution. The people of our country, by taking part tomorrow in the unity and victory march on the last day of Holy Defense Week, will celebrate the victories of the holy defense, will honor the memory of the Islamic homeland's devotees, will express support for the stances of the Islamic Republic vis-a-vis the recent Persian Gulf crisis, and will renew their allegiance with the principles of the Islamic revolution.

President Urges Industrial Modernization

LD2709123190 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Text] Managers of companies within the Organization for Expansion and Renovation of National Iranian Industries, as well as directors, assistant directors, and directors general of the Ministry of Heavy Industries, accompanied by Minister of Heavy Industries Nezhad Hoseynian, met today with president Hashemi-Rafsanjani.

Speaking at the meeting to explain the country's economic policies and the state of the economy, Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani remarked on the steps taken by the government in this sector. He said: The country's industries must make efforts to move in line with the world's advanced industries. With regard to the availability of cheap energy and raw materials, as well as an active labor force, industrial plants' products will have a favorable field for competition on the domestic and the foreign markets.

Emphasizing the need to pay attention to research, he said: The country's specialists must engage in vast research work in an effort to introduce changes in the structure of the country's industries. This must be achieved in order to quickly catch up the world's advanced industries. Toward this end it is possible to benefit from the available spiritual and intellectual resources, the contribution of universities, and finally the material and experimental resources of specialists. People's participation must also be sought to bring about the renovation of the industrial plants. Meanwhile, the managers of the country's industries, relying on the support given to them by the government and the Majlis, must make efforts to experiment on low-cost manufacturing methods, as well as on ways to catch up with advanced industries. In cases where the people have the capability to perform a task, managers must give these people the opportunity to work.

Continuing his remarks, our country's president explained the government's economic policies in the industrial sector, saying: As its first step toward solving the problems of productive factories, the government has adopted the policy of improving production, a policy which has now achieved good successes. Meanwhile, the market enjoys a calculated confidence and stability, which illustrates that the government has adopted a realistic policy. Continuation of this policy will inspire officials and the people with greater confidence.

Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani added: Today, the progress of any country depends on its industrial progress. This fact always receives the government's serious attention in its policy making. Toward this end, the free trade area in Qeshm Island can serve as a bridge between the domestic and foreign industries, and with due regard to the availability of sufficient gas, oil, and electricity—which will bring about the presence of many of the world's industries, and lead to an increase in exports—a good field for technological and industrial exchanges of views will be created.

In conclusion the president referred to the spirit of resistence and self-sacrifice by the people on the political, social, and economic scenes. He said: The serious policy of the Islamic revolution has made the enemies repent for their past deeds. Under such conditions our people will tomorrow celebrate their great victory in a happy march. In another test in the near future they will hold elections to the Experts Assembly. As in the past, the people will diligently, and motivated by their sense of duty, demonstrate their appropriate presence.

Later, Minister of Heavy Industries Nezhad-Hoseynian submitted a report to the president of the republic on the economic state of industries within the Organization for Expansion and Renovation of National Industries.

Nurbakhsh Addresses IMF, World Bank Session

LD2609201190 Tehran IRNA in English 1815 GMT 26 Sep 90

[Text] Washington, Sept. 26, IRNA—Iran's Finance Minister Mohsen Nurbakhsh addressing a joint session of the World Bank [WB] and the International Monetary Fund [IMF] here today, outlined the country's economic policies.

He also urged the industrialised countries to utilise their current oil reserves in order to relieve the current pressure on the international oil market and restore market stability.

Nurbakhsh said the new economic policies in Iran aim to increasingly revitalize the various economic sectors, reducing restrictions and enhancing people's participation in economic activities. He also said that the budget deficit is expected to be limited to four percent of the gross domestic production (GDP) in the current year.

Excerpts:
The world is on the brink of a new decade marked by profound developments and challenges for the international community, stemming from greater regional integration, economic and political unification and the march towards greater market orientation.

The lessons drawn from our experience of the past decade should form an appropriate basis for our policies and strategies of the future. Experience has demonstrated that without effective international cooperation, a lasting solution to the many problems and challenges that confront the world today will be as elusive as ever. Developing and developed countries should work together in a spirit of international cooperation, in order to enhance global development and avoid economic crisis.

The Persian Gulf crisis that has overshadowed the recent events, has different dimensions, one of which is the developments in the international oil market, that are going to raise the import bills of many oil consuming countries, including the developing nations. While we fully sympathize an dshare these concerns, based on the past experience, the temporary and reversible nature of such developments should be noted, adding to the uncertainty that surrounds the future trend of the international oil market. As far as we are concerned, a stable international oil market will be beneficial for both the oil producers and consumers. To achieve stability, an effective and meaningful cooperation between consumers and producers is of utmost importance. To this end, the industrial countries are expected not only to refrain from further increasing their prevailing high levels of strategic oil reserves but also to utilize their current reserves in order to relieve the current pressure on the international oil market, and restore market stability.

For many oil producing countries in the region, including the Islamic Republic of Iran, this crisis has imposed additional costs relating the necessity of taking defensive precautionary measures and the costs involved in the settlement of refugees. Tens of thousands of refugees have fled Kuwait and are now settled in the various provinces of Iran where the reconstruction process had already started, thus disrupting the reconstruction operations. It is unfortunate to note that, shortly after the beginning of the crisis, the price of industrial countries' manufacturing exports has risen, resulting in erosion of any increase in the oil export earnings of oil producers, and fueling global inflation.

The industrial countries, commensurate with the greater size of their economies, should contribute significantly to enhance global savings, economic growth and reduction of interest rates, as well as inflation. Needless to say, the developing countries will also continue with the necessary adjustments and policy reforms in order to enhance savings, attract investments and restore normal international financial relations.

Upon victory of the Islamic revolution in 1979 followed by the outbreak of the imposed war, most sectors of the economy faced recession and production fell considerably, to the extent that the economy experienced negative GDP growth for a number of years. However, in 1989, upon the adoption and implementation of new economic policies by the government, the rate of growth of the GDP turned positive.

The preliminary estimates and projections indicate that based on improved economic prospects, the GDP will increase significantly in 1990 compared to 1989. The industrial sector has experienced marked expansion, and gross capital formation and investment volumes have been within the planned targets. New economic policies resulted in an increase of 52 percent in government revenues in 1989, which is about twice the figure projected in the five-year economic development plan. The budget deficit in 1989 was halved compared to the preceding year, while most of the development projects have received adequate funding.

According to the reports prepared by the IMF consultation mission which visited the Islamic Republic of Iran in February 1990, the budget deficit was contained to between 4 to 8 percent of GDP during most of the war years, a remarkable figure in comparison with those countries which have not even been involved in a war. The budget deficit is expected to be limited to 4 percent of the GDP in the current year. The report also adds that the defence budget increased by less than 4 percent annually during the 1980's, when the war was still raging.

The new economic policies in Iran aim to increasingly revitalize the various economic sectors, reducing restrictions, enhance people's participation in economic activities, sell government-owned shares in various state companies and institutions to the public, activate the stock market, establish free trade and industrial zones and engage in joint investments with foreign firms. Considerable progress during the last year in further deregulating the foreign exchange and trade system and reform of the monetary and banking sectors were made. In this connection, new exchange rates reflecting economic fundamentals were announced and in the area of banking, higher rates of returns on bank deposits, based on Islamic modalities, were introduced.

It is noteworthy that through implementation of the first five-year development plan of the Islamic Republic of Iran, the budget deficit is expected to be eliminated, inflation brought under control and distribution of income improve toward greater equity. Government revenues will increase through tax reform, and dependency on oil exports will ease.

Improved economic conditions have set the stage for continued expansion. Support and participation of our people in the task of development is very encouraging. During eight years of the war, our people accepted hardship and showed great sacrifice and dedication, contributing significantly toward the cost of the war. As a result, our country relied on its own domestic resources and did not resort to foreign borrowing to conduct the war-these prudent financial policies, together with public support and enthusiasm, have now set stage for our reconstruction drive.

Paper Discusses Need To Diversify Arms Suppliers

NC2809082190 Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English 24 Sep 90 p 2

[Editorial: "Iran Should Not Limit Its Weaponry Sources"]

[Text] As of last Saturday, the eleventh anniversary of the Iraqi invasion of Iran, the Islamic Republic's Air Force began flying its first batch of advanced Soviet MiG-29 attack airplanes.

Before Iran, a number of other regional countries such as Iraq had been equipped with the MiGs.

But Kremlin had never sold the MiGs to any government except those whose ties with Moscow were more than excellent. As such the Soviets' agreement to sell Iran the advanced airfighters had a great deal of significance for regional political circles.

Iran-USSR relations have gone through a lot of ups and downs over the past decades.

The not-too-friendly ties however took a turn for the better since the Soviet pullout from Afghanistan and the ceasefire in the Iran-Iraq eight-year war, both in 1988.

The two capitals' relations climaxed when President 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani visited Moscow last year. It was during that visit that the two sides cemented their relations and expressed their interests in promoting ties. Perhaps the agreement over the deliverty of the MiG-29s too was reached then and there. It is said however that Iran's military purchases will not be limited to this newly received batch of airfighters. Moscow has announced its agreement to sell more arms to the Islamic Republic.

But there is a rather tough rivalry going on as far as arms sale to Iran is concerned. A number of European countries too have informed Tehran of their preparedness to meet Iran's military needs. And it is said Iran is considering these offers as well.

Perhaps a significant consideration of Iranian officials in studying these arms-related proposals is the fact that the country should not rely on any one single country as its source for weaponry. This Iran has learned as a precious lesson in the course of the war.

During the war Iran faced a lot of bottlenecks arising from the fact that the Western system and weaponry of the Air Force made it dependent on American supplies and the U.S. had imposed an arms embargo on Iran. The country then had to turn to international arms dealers for a lot of its weaponry needs.

The Chinese, however, have also come up with good prices for their arms. But Tehran seems to opt for sophisticated and advanced weaponry for its Air Force in particular.

Iran, however, has never been a war monger. Throughout the eight-year-war too Tehran was only defending its rights. But given plots after plots hatched against the Middle East by the imperialist powers it is a must that Iran maintains high military efficiency.

Editorial Criticizes Kuwait's Al-Sabah Regime

NC2409162090 Tehran JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI in Persian 4 Sep 90 pp 1, 2

[Editorial: "Justifying Treachery"]

[Text] The defense minister of the fugitive al-Sabah regime has said: "If I were the commander of the American forces in Saudi Arabia, I would issue attack orders immediately and drive Iraq out of Kuwait."

Obviously the American troops are neither under his, nor the Kuwaiti shaykhs', nor the Saudi king's command. But he did not explain why he did not give the order to the troops under his command in the Kuwaiti army and why, even before the Iraqi attack started, he abjectly fled from Kuwait and left the people alone to face the aggressor army.

The truth is that the situation in the region started with the occupation of Kuwait and led to the immense military expedition by the NATO armies to the heart of the Islamic world's oil-rich area and to the occupation of the "land of revelation" by the pleasure-seeking American troops. The flimsy Arab kings have created a condition where the occupation of Kuwait has turned into a "secondary problem" and has been overshadowed by the NATO countries' military expedition to the heart of the Islamic world's oil-rich area.

The Islamic Republic has been warning the Arabs about the possibility of this irritating senario for years. But the Arabs either did not want to or were unable to fathom the significance of the issue and the depth of the tragedy. Thus, due to their enmity with Islam and the Islamic revolution, they denigrated themselves before the enemies of Islam and have now become prey to America and to the other enemies of Islam today.

America has called on the NATO army to the region in order to gain domination over the heart of the Islamic world's oil-rich area on the pretext of defending regional countries. It is quite clear that it is moving merely toward the fulfillment of its own objectives, that it is exploiting the existing crisis specifically to justify the military presence of NATO armies in the region, and that it is trying to give a legal status to its presence in the region.

The defense minister of the fugitive al-Sabah regime's comment that if the American troops were under his command he would have immediately ordered an end to Kuwait's occupation is very similar to an irritating joke. First, if he were brave enough to stand up against the aggressing army, he would have mobilized the Kuwaiti forces instead of wanting to mobilize the American forces. He would have fired at least one shot at the aggressor army and would not have fled so disgracefully. Second, the al-Sabah family is entertaining wishful thoughts and thinks that the NATO armies have come to the region to end the occupation of Kuwait. These armies have their own interests and they are naturally pursuing these interests by adapting themselves to regional conditions. They are definitely not prepared to make any sacrifices to reinstate the incapable al-Sabah regime. They are definitely not prepared to fight in lieu of the Kuwaiti army and to do something that even the government and armed forces of Kuwait avoided doing.

Cowardly and corrupt regimes like the al-Sabah and Al Sa'ud regimes are capable only of belligerence to the peoples of their own countries and feel strong only when it comes to confronting their own nations. But when it comes to foreigners, they feel irritatingly abject and they carry out the most capricious decisions. Was the al-Sabah regime so incapable that it could not even fire only one bullet at the aggressor army? So incapable that all elements—even the miltary and security officials—of the al-Sabah regime fled the country even before the Iraqi attack began?

The truth is that Arab reaction has been deceiving the Arab nations for more than a decade and now it should be held accountable for its stand. The al-Sabah and Al Sa'ud regimes should answer why they used the foreign reserves of Kuwait and Saudi Arabia against the Islamic revolution. Even the confessions by the al-Sabah and Al Sa'ud regimes today do indicate the least regret for their acts. Instead, they emphasize that they helped the aggressive Iraqi regime [during the Iran-Iraq war] in an attempt to make the Baghdad leaders reconsider their "ingratitude" toward the al-Sabah and Al Sa'ud regimes.

The Al Sa'ud and al-Sabah regimes have maliciously plunged a knife into the heart of the regional people and the world of Islam and are today recounting part of their treacheries and crimes in order to gain the pity of the aggressor. The recent remarks by Nayif-Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz, the Al Sa'ud regime's interior minister, are based precisely and uttered specifically because of this. He is still trying to justify all the Al Sa'ud regime's treachery, wanting to portray its shameless investment in confronting the Islamic revolution as "an effort to fulfill the objectives of the Arab ummah." But the current irritating situation and the abjectness that the Arab world has been plunged into today is precisely the fruit of all the treachery perpetrated by the Al Sa'ud and al-Sabah regimes.

There is no doubt in the fact that the continued presence of the aggressor and his aggressive spirit will bring total insecurity to the region. But more dangerous than the continued presence of the aggressor is the continued existence of corrupt and flimsy regimes like the Al Sa'ud and al-Sabah regimes that have watered the roots of aggression. They are the ones who carry the heavy blame of having encouraged and armed the aggressor. They are the ones who continue to try to justify their crimes and portray this as an effort to fulfill the Arab ummah's objectives. They are the ones who are prepared to resort to any crime and treachery in order to maintain their rule; and they have proven this in their deeds.

It is acceptable that the region's insecurity is a result of Iraq's aggression. But one should see who was watering the root of aggression and who encouraged Iraq's aggressive disposition. Who are those who want to justify all the treachery and are reproaching Iraq for having given in to Iran's definite right?

The region needs security. But in order to establish a lasting security, the elements of aggression, as well as giving encouragment and arms to the aggressor should be stopped. Unless this is achieved, the region will never be secure and calm and will be plunged into one big crisis after the other, thus preparing the grounds to justify the NATO armies' domination over the heart of the Islamic world's oil-rich area.

Editorial on U.S. Efforts To Reinstate 'Royalty'

NC2809095090 Tehran KAYHAN INTERNATIONAL in English 18 Sep 90 p 2

[Editorial: "The Guests of Jabir and Fahd"]

[Text] Iran's oft-repeated formula for peace and security in the Persian Gulf region, namely that the countries bordering on the Gulf are responsible for the safety of the area, is certainly the wave of the future. Both Arab camps in the current Persian Gulf crisis have belatedly realized the wisdom in the Iranian dictum, albeit from vastly different perspectives. The two conflicting Arab sides are facing full-scale American intervention with both peace and war threatening their continued existence.

At first glance the immediate beneficiary of the massive U.S. troop buildup seems to be the Al Sa'ud dynasty. Time, however, will prove this notion as illusory as any desert mirage. Keep in mind what happened to Kuwait. The al-Sabah played the American card against Iran in the eight years of war with iraq. Today Kuwait is practically a former country.

Perhaps the only real legitimacy the amir and his family now possess is that an invasion of Kuwait by the American forces could be mounted in the name of restoring the al-Sabah clan. Thus the family are pawns in the hands of Washington, as are their reported $200b in assets. Of course this is a traditional role for them, stretching back 200 years to the British imperium.

But who can imagine American's dying in the thousands to put royalty back on the throne? George Bush cannot and if he orders an invasion the goal will not be Kuwait but all of Iraq, with consequent occupation. If either the Al Sa'uds or al-Sabahs think their Great White Father is going to take a big casualty count to keep their thrones, then they have sand in their eyes.

King Fahd has already understood that calling in Uncle Sam was easy but getting him out is fraught with dangers. Saddam Husayn too would certainly like to see the Americans leave—and they in turn know he will not leave without a fight or concessions.

At any rate, with winter approaching the northern hemisphere, it is an unlikely time for hostilities because of what that would do to the heating bills in the industrialized countries. But come spring when Arab blood will be the only restraining factor, the area might be in for a dose of Yankee imperialism.

In the meantime let Fahd and Jabir continue to feed their guests.

Editorial Terms U.S. 'No Lover of Peace'

NC2809093190 Tehran KAYHAN INTERNATIONAL in English 22 Sep 90 p 2

[Editorial: "America's New War"]

[Text] Ten years after the United States have Iraq the green light to invade the Islamic Republic of Iran, the region is still in a state of perpetual crisis. A decade ago on this day, Sept. 22, 1980, Iraqi tanks rolled over the Iranian border in what was later claimed to be a joint U.S.-Arab action plan to reverse the 1979 Islamic Revolution. Though the mission was unaccomplished, it revealed to the free international community the depth of American arrogance and this nation's determination to defend its honor, sovereignty and territorial integrity. And as Iran rightfully claimed throughout the 1980-88 war years, the confrontation was never between two neighboring countries or two widely contradicting ideologies. For Iranians it was a war of survival between a newly-born Muslim state and the entire world.

Iran's revolutionary credentials put it on the American hit list in September of 1980. Ten years and a full-fledged war later Iraq's name has been added to the same list albeit for very different reasons. Iran and Iraq are the two major powers in the strategically important region that have the potential to hurt the illegitimate interests of the Western superpower and its closest ally, Israel. For this reason, among other things, policymakers in Washington are of the opinion that all threats to American hegemony must be removed even if that means fighting a foreign war, forcing world organizations to adopt binding resolutions against a said country and/or using all available diplomatic channels to meet pre- determined goals.

This is exactly what President George Bush is doing. The Pentagon is displaying the latest in U.S. military technology in the air, ground and at sea to "tame" Iraqi President Saddam Husayn after his forces invaded Kuwait. The U.S. administration is busy lobbying for anti-Iraqi votes in the United Nations and has succeeded in passing at least six Security Council resolutions that in effect isolate Baghdad and order all U.N. member states to respect sanctions imposed on the Arab country following its annexation of the tiny shaykhdom. To keep all options open Bush has despatched senior officials to tens of countries to extract international commitments for the U.S. cause and where he was unable to send American teams, the good offices of third countries are told to help.

In less than three weeks Tehran has hosted at least six senior delegations from countries that may be directly affected if a shooting war starts between Iraq and the U.S. Foreign Minister of the Kuwaiti government-in-exile, Oman's minister of state for foreign affairs, foreign ministry officials from the United Arab Emirates and Soviet Union held talks in the Iranian capital in the past few days. Turkish President Turgut Ozal sent a special envoy to deliver a message to his Iranian counterpart and Iraq's Tariq 'Aziz visited Iran to pave the way for reestablishing diplomatic relations after Saddam Husayn accepted all Iranian conditions to end the eight-year-old conflict.

In the context of the Persian Gulf crisis and the role Iran can play in making or breaking the U.S.-sponsored sanctions against the people of Iraq, Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad is visiting Tehran from today. It has been speculated that Mr. al-Asad will convey American requests for supporting the "international will" against Iraq's August 2 invasion of Kuwait. The trip follows talks in Damascus last week between Mr. al-Asad and U.S. Secretary of State James Baker. This is the first time the Syrian leader is visiting the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Given the world's reaction to Iraq's Kuwaiti offensive and how it responded to and aided Baghdad's huge war machine against Iran, no world leader or international body has the moral authority to tell Iran how to cultivate its post-war Iraqi relations. The United Nations in general and world leaders in particular are today more than willing to go to war with Saddam Husayn's Iraq, whereas a couple of months earlier he was hailed as a hero and an ally whom the West could rely on. The U.S., Britain, France, Soviet Union... who are all pointing an accusing finger at the Iraqi president now, were among his closest allies when he was fighting their war against the people of Iran. Because loyalties have shifted so have the targets and stakes.

Iran will see to it that outside forces and developments in the arrogant camp do not influence its foreign policy. If foreign aggression and dependence on aliens are equally harmful, Iran has been tested by both and is aware of its long and short term consequences. Ten years after a war was imposed on the Islamic Republic its position has not changed. The U.S. presence and its influence is harmful and should be rejected by the littoral masses. Once Iran was singled out for destruction, today it is Iraq. Tomorrow it will be the turn of other American friends in the region. The U.S. is no lover of peace and stability. All Arabs in the area should realize this before it is too late.

Editorial Examines Basis of Relations With West

NC2809091590 Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English 18 Sep 90 p 2

[Editorial: "Relations Need To Be Based on Mutual Respect, Understanding"]

[Text] Recently a Foreign Ministry official of Belgium expressed interest for expansion of relations with the Islamic Republic of Iran. He also called for expansion of Irano-Belgian bilateral relations.

In the period immediately after the victory of the Islamic Revolution, the Western world could not understand the ideological system of Islamic Iran or Iran's foreign policy. This barred the European Economic Community (EEC) from having sound relations with the republic.

The Islamic Republic of Iran certainly desires the expansion of relations with various countries on the basis of respect for international laws and regulations and non-interference in each other's internal affairs. It has time and again welcomed this.

Fortunately, despite bad propaganda against the Islamic Republic of Iran efforts to force it to change its stance and resorting to various pressures and threats against it, it has gradually become clearer for Western countries that nothing can budge the Islamic Iran from its revolutionary principles as well as international and humanitarian regulations which accord with Islamic principles. The Islamic Republic is in fact one of the few countries which respects such laws.

Recently the Western countries have concluded that they can have better relations with Iran by respecting its sacred values. Therefore the EC countries if they are so inclined can have expanded relations with Iran if they respect the above-mentioned principles and international laws.

We hope that the Western countries will realize that Islamic principles and laws are unchangeable. As the Islamic Republic respects the beliefs, values and sacred principles of other nations, we hope that other countries will respond in kind and respect its sacred values and the ideology of the Muslim nation of Iran. This will lead to improved relations.

It is inevitable that the present world feels the need for better relations among various nations. Such relations should naturally be based on mutual understanding and respect.

Today in the modern world, the period of domination in nation's relations is in process of finding. [sentence as published] This is particularly true after the victory of the Islamic Revolution of Iran and its thesis of "Neither East nor West." This can also be clearly seen in the end of the Cold War era and end of the Superpower rivalry. No longer should the big powers or the Superpowers expect a return to the dark period of colonialism and domineering.

Editorial Comments on Kurdish Attack

PM2709132690 Tehran KEYHAN HAVAI in Persian 19 Sep 90 p 8

[Editorial: "Elements who live to destroy civilization."]

[Text] The recent attacks of counterrevolutionary elements against facilities and the setting on fire of machinery belonging to companies that are working in the western parts of the country to improve farming and conditions in villages, once again remind one of the destructive methods of the groups linked to foreigners at the beginning of the revolution.

Recent trips made by some Kurdish tribal leaders to the United States followed by attacks of counterrevolutionary elements against irrigation companies in the west are two sides of the coin of coordination of the counterrevolution with the West to create obstacles in the path of improving the lives of villages in this region and the expansion of agriculture.

At the beginning of the revolution the villagers in the western parts of the country had hopes and high morale gained from the victory of the revolution and were preparing themselves to improve their surroundings, keeping in mind the environment that had been created in the country. But these same elements took their cues from the foreigners and prevented the villagers from making up for years of deprivation. At that time also the counterrevolutionary elements started by attacking those very centers which had been set up to help the villagers, thereby creating obstacles in the path of improvements. With the start of the war, there was no need to continue this trend. But now with the Iraqi acceptance of Iran's demands and the 1975 Algiers Accord, once again reconstruction work as well as renewed agriculture are making progress in the region. So once again destruction is undertaken by the counterrevolutionary elements to stop the improvements being made in villages as well as the general trend in agricultural self-sufficiency. The radio transmitter called Voice of Kordestan spoke with pride of arson attacks against machinery and equipment in the irrigation companies, disrupting the work of those very companies which have been established there to improve conditions. It said: one canal-digging machine, one loader, one bulldozer, one 10-ton Mercedes irrigation machine and four 10-ton trucks were burned to the ground in the arson attacks staged by the counterrevolutionary elements in the irrigation works.

At the beginning of the revolution these same counterrevolutionary elements were proud of burning farms belonging to villagers. Carrying titles with such words as "people" and "supporters of the people" they did to the villagers what the warmongers did to the people of Iran as a whole.

Those who imposed the war on Iran, those who supported the aggressor, forced the counterrevolution to attack the villagers yesterday. Today, they are forcing them toward destruction once again. The leaders of some Kurdish tribes are too puppet-like for the people in the area to regard them as anything but bandits.

Pakistan

Jatoi Defends Accountability Process

Favors Frequent Elections

BK2809085590 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] Prime Minister Ghulam Mustafa Jatoi has said the people's verdict in the 24 October elections will be accepted with open heart. Speaking in the Qaumi Shiyasat [National Politics] program of radio and television last night, he favored the idea of holding general elections frequently so that democracy could flourish and parliamentary institutions be consolidated and strengthened. He discussed in detail the elections, accountability, the background to the dissolution of the assembly, and the law and order situation in Sindh. He said the mid-term elections are an important part of the parliamentary system. It will be highly regrettable if the dollars acquired by horse-trading and corruption are used in the election. The prime minister, interviewed by a panel of prominent journalists, stressed the need to keep a close watch to defeat the plans of those who try to win the elections by virtue of money, and said one or two such cases should be made an example to serve as a deterrent for others.

Replying to a question, the prime minister said rumors were spread deliberately to divert attention from the national issue and accountability, and to hide from the public eyes the loot and plunder of those facing accountability. He denied that the accountability process was one-sided and focusing on the opposition only. He pointed out that in the absence of any tradition of accountability in the past, the former governments engaged in extreme corruption and plunder, thinking that they would get away with it. The accountability process at two levels—through hearings and appeals—has improved the right of defendants. The process is being carried out at the level of the high court judges. The supreme court judges could have been included in the tribunals, but this would have taken away the right of appeal.

Mr. Ghulam Mustafa Jatoi said the former prime minister has the opportunity to prove her innocence before the tribunals and should use this opportunity if her hands are clean. In some cases where proof or evidence was insufficient, the tribunals returned the reference.

The prime minister said that along with the process in the special courts, accountability was also being undertaken by means of elections. These two processes are separate and are progressing independently from each other.

The prime minister said that in Sindh, where the Pakistan People's Party had an overwhelming majority, the law and order situation went from bad to worse.

The prime minister said that if the people voted them to power, the Islamic Democratic Alliance and the past combined opposition would give top priority to enforcement of law and order, provision of justice, and employment for the people.

AFP Reports Further

BK2809015990 Hong Kong AFP in English 0047 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Excerpts] Islamabad, Sept 27 (AFP)—Pakistan's caretaker premier Thursday asked his deposed predecessor Benazir

Bhutto to defend erself before a special court trying her on acharges of misconduct if "her hands are clean."

"The ousted premier has an opportunity to prove her innocence and she must avail Mr. Ghulam Mustafa Jatoi said in a televised interview, the first of a series planned by state-run television ahead of October 24 polls. [no closing quotation marks as received] [passage omitted]

Mr. Jatoi, 58, former parliamentary opposition leader, dismissed claims that disqualification of Ms. Bhutto from the ballot, the punishment she faces in case of a guilty verdict, could damage the credibility of elections. "I don't think so," the interim premier told a panel of journalists, adding that he wanted Ms. Bhutto to remain in the arena as otherwise she may try to "make propaganda to her benefit."

Repeating the allegation that millions of dollars were plundered by the PPP government, Mr. Jatoi said there was no reason to spare an erring chief executive. "Accountability should not be confined to the poor," he added. [passage omitted]

The caretaker premier said the parties gathered under the umbrella of Islamic Democratic Alliance (IJI) would win next month's elections. Law and order, justice and employment to the common man will be top priorities of the new government, he said.

He declined to name a prospective IJI prime minister, saying the question would be decided in a "democratic fashion" after the elections. Observers view him and IJI President Nawaz Sharif as most likely contenders, with former Premier Mohammed Khan Junejo and late President Mohammed Ziaul Haq's son Ejazul Haq also expected to vie for the post. Mr. Jatoi's interview was recorded before he began a visit to gulf states Wednesday.

Election Panel Dismisses Appeal Against Bhutto

BK2709165490 Islamabad Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Text] In Peshawar today, the election tribunal dismissed the appeals seeking disqualification of former Prime Minister Ms. Benazir Bhutto for contesting National Assembly elections from constituency NA-1, Peshawar-1.

In Karachi an appeal against the acceptance of nomination papers of Ms. Benazir Bhutto from constituency NA-89 came up for hearing today before the election tribunal. The tribunal has adjourned the hearing till tomorrow.

Bhutto Directed To Appear in Court 30 Sep

BK2709160190 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Text] A special court comprising Mr. Waziruddin Ahmed in Karachi today issued show cause notices to the former prime minister, Ms. Benazir Bhutto, directing her to personally appear in the court on Sunday [30 September] at 1230 hours. The notices were issued in connection with two references filed against her on the 10th of this month. One reference is related to the appointment of a consultant in connection with an Asian Development Bank loan for the expansion project of the Karachi Electric Supply Corporation, while the other reference relates to the awarding of a contract in favor of the firm Rally Brothers Limited Karachi.

PPP Urges Supreme Court To Withdraw Stay

BK2709161590 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Text] The Pakistan People's Party today filed an appeal in the Supreme Court urging that it withdraw the stay order issued against the Peshawar High Court's verdict on restoration of the Northwest Frontier Province assembly and provincial cabinet. The appeal was filed by the former federal minister, Mr. Iftikhar Hussain Gilani, on behalf of the Pakistan People's Party.

Editorial Assesses 'New Understanding' With PRC

BK2709082590 Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 25 Sep 90 p 4

[Editorial: "The Message From Beijing"]

[Text] Although President Ghulam Ishaq Khan has, understandably, stopped short of specifying details in this context, his remarks at the Beijing press conference regarding the new understanding between Pakistan and China with reference to the changed security requirements of the former, the message does come out loud and clear. It could have anything but reassured an India which has at any rate found its unmitigated hostility for the Kashmiri freedom fighters, and by extension also for Pakistan, an increasingly counterproductive exercise in the recent past. After being effectively marginalised from the centre-stage theatre of the Middle-East crisis due to New Delhi's inability to extricate itself from the pro-Iraq framework, India is bound to feel all the more uncomfortable by the reiteration of Pakistan-China regional equation. By the same token, any hope New Delhi may have entertained about an effective breach in the Pakistan-China relationship coming about by virtue of Beijing's tendency to open up individually to contending South Asian States, would be finally put to rest.

There is nothing dramatic involved here. And if New Delhi and its rather precarious power structure at the present are capable of appreciating India's own enlightened self-interest, they would heed the compelling new realities of the extended region. The foremost demand of that realisation on the part of India would be to contain the self-inflicted damage to the future stability of the country by conceding the legitimate right of the people of Jammu and Kashmir to self-determinatoin as spelled out by the relevant UN Resolutions. Alternatively, the flames of active defiance against New Delhi now raging in held Kashmir could radicalise an estensive part of

Indian Union as well, and not recessarily along the occupied territory. It is only through such a realistic reappraisal of its policy options while New Delhi still has a chance to exercise them, that India can hope to insulate itself from the shockwaves now being built up in the Muslim Middle-East.

China, on the other hand, appears fully cognisant of the dimensions and the reach of the challenge brewing in the Persian Gulf which has an inextricable linkage with societies as far removed as Kashmir and Xinjiang. As opposed to India's inertia which could take a heavy toll of the country's interests not only domestically but also in the regions to its east and west, China has adopted the singularly correct attitude of preparing itself for the havoc which the Middle-East tinder-box may cause to the regional balance. Without getting over-excited about the Iraqi aggression against Kuwait, Beijing has so far made all allowances for the irrepressible passions of the Muslim world triggered off by the virtual transformation of the Holy Land in the Arabian peninsula into an American outpost. Pakistan, despite the official positon adopted by it with reference to the looming catastrophe, is destined to play a crucial role in the days ahead. This centrality of Pakistan's position is not lost to any of the regional, as also the extra-regional, powers—with the conspicuous exception of India which, logically, could be a major victim of the veritable apocalypse in the making.

Sri Lanka

Iraq Frees 90 Detained Sri Lankan Workers

BK2709171890 Hong Kong AFP in English 1621 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Text] Colombo, Sept 27 (AFP)—Iraq Thursday freed 90 Sri Lankan workers it had detained along with several other migrant workers following Iraq's August 2 invasion of Kuwait, officials said here. "Early this morning the Sri Lankan Embassy in Baghdad secured the release of the 90 Sri Lankan nationals held in jail by the Iraqi authorities, and despatched them by road" to the Jordan border, an official communique said.

It did not give details on how the Sri Lankans came to be there, but Minister of State for Foreign Affairs John Amaratunga said that they were employees of an Iraqi oil company. "They had been held captive by the authorities there and have now been released," Mr. Amaratunga said without elaborating.

The brief Foreign Ministry statement said officials at Sri Lanka's consulate in Jordan "would ensure the early clearance of these persons through the border and their early repatriation." Thousands of Sri Lankan workers in both Kuwait and Iraq were stranded following Baghdad's invasion and subsequent annexation of its tiny neighbour.

Large numbers of Sri Lankans have been fleeing Kuwait to Amman from where they hope to return home in one of several refugee flights organised by the U.N.-sponsored International Organisation for Migration (IOM). Meanwhile, elaborate arrangements have been made to welcome more than 1,500 Sri Lankan refugees who are due to arrive here Friday on the first chartered ship bringing stranded workers to the country from Amman.

Press reports also said that Iraq had granted Colombo permission to airlift its remaining refugees direct from Kuwait but this could not be officially confirmed. Officials said more than 15,000 Sri Lankans have been brought home since the beginning of the Gulf crisis. Some 70,000 more remain in Iraq, Kuwait and neighbouring states.

610 Return From Gulf

BK2809115390 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] The Foreign Ministry says 610 passengers arrived at Katunayake today on two flights under the accelerated program to repatriate Sri Lankans in the Middle East. Early this morning, the Sri Lanka Embassy in Baghdad secured the release of 90 Sri Lankan nationals held in jail by the Iraqi authorities and sent them by road to Amman/Jordan border. Sri Lanka's honorary consul in Jordan ensuring that the early clearance of these persons through the border and their early repatriation under the accelerated program [sentence as heard]. The Foreign Ministry informs the public that they would be back home in a few days time.

Further Reportage Details Jaffna Fort Incidents

LTTE Claims Army Casualties

BK2709081090 Hong Kong AFP in English 0728 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Excerpts] Colombo, Sept 27 (AFP)—Sri Lanka's powerful rebel group, the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE), has claimed that its fighters inflicted heavy army casualties when they stormed an army-held fort in northern Jaffna Province.

"As LTTE fighters fought their way into the fort the Sri Lankan soldiers started fleeing in panic. LTTE fighters inflicted heavy casualties on the enemy soldiers " said a statement received here overnight Wednesday from the group's London office. It said that a fighter named Ragu and a woman guerrilla named Sisilia died when the LTTE overran the Jaffna Fort army garrison on Wednesday after "enforcing a three month siege."

Colombo said that its troops had vacated the fort on Wednesday after breaking the siege earlier this month and had asked the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) to take it over. The LTTE statement said, "After 400 years of foreign occupation the Tamils have now taken control of the Jaffna Fort," which was built by the Dutch in the 17th century.

It added that buildings inside the fort had been devastated after the rebels fired mortar bombs and several weapons and vehicles had been captured. The Sri Lankan navy used boats from nearby Mandaitivu Island to rescue the fleeing soldiers, the statement said.

A military spokesman here denied the fort was stormed by the LTTE. "What can we say to their false claims? Ours was a voluntary withdrawal to allow the ICRC to take over the fort and help run the Jaffna hospital," the spokesman said.

The large Jaffna hospital, located less than a kilometer (mile) away from the fort, stopped functioning after war broke out in the northeast. The government wants it to be reopened and run under ICRC supervision. ICRC officials could not be immediately reached for comment.

Military officials here said the Tigers had mounted anti-aircraft guns in the hospital premises which were also used to launch attacks on the fort when it was under siege.

The LTTE statement also alleged that the air force "continuously bombarded the Jaffna Peninsula" throughout Wednesday. Independent sources confirmed bombing of the northern peninsula, which is controlled by the Tigers.

Casualty figures were not known, the LTTE added. [passage omitted]

Minister of State for Defence Ranjan Wijeratne said that troops were pulled out because the government had achieved its aim of rescuing 175 soldiers and policemen who had been trapped inside the fort for more than three months. An army officer said that since holding on to the fort had been more a matter of prestige than defending a strategically important post, "it was no point hanging around after accomplishing our mission (of rescuing the troops)."

Most army camps came under LTTE siege immediately after clashes erupted on June 11 in the island's Tamil-majority northeast between government troops and the guerrillas. Since then bitter fighting has raged in the region, leaving nearly 4,250 dead, while a million others have been rendered refugees.

Minister Wijeratne Comments

BK2709145190 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Text] The security forces moved out of the Jaffna Fort and the adjacent area. This was done in order to handover the Jaffna Fort to the ICRC [International Committee of Red Cross] to provide its humanitarian services more effectively. According to a Defense Ministry communique this will facilitate the functioning of the Jaffna hospital. The Security Council has decided to convey this decision to the ICRC. A reply was expected by last evening. This was disclosed yesterday by the minister of plantation industries and state minister for defense, Ranjan Wijeratne, when he briefed media men in Colombo on the present situation in the north and the east. Minister Wijeratne also referred to the request made to the ICRC in August to take over the fort and also to have a hospital reopened and kept under their supervision. The ICRC's delay in responding to this request forced the Sri Lankan forces to go ahead with their plan of operation.

Minister Wijeratne said that if the LTTE [Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam] cadres attempt to reenter the fort, the security forces will be forced to take action. The minister said that according to a reliable source in the Kayts-Mandativu operation, LTTE group leaders and subleaders in that area had fled to the peninsula leaving behind their cadres on the island. Forty-eight of their strong cadres have died in Kayts. Mahendraraja alias Mahattaya [LTTE deputy leader] in turn had given instruction to execute these groups and subgroup leaders who deserted their cadres. Minister Wijeratne disclosed the names of the five leaders who were executed. They are James, Naresh, Rajan, Castro, and Mali. He added that about two 2,500 LTTE cadres have become battle victims since the commencement of hostilities on the 11th of June.

Minister Wijeratne said that all hospitals in Jaffna peninsula area are full of LTTE casualities and in addition they use houses as hospital. He also referred to the liberation of 175 security forces and police personnel who had to face constant firing while in the fort.

ICRC To Take Over by 30 Sep

BK2809103990 Colombo LANKAPUVATH in English 0746 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] Colombo, 28 Sept (LANKAPUVATH)—The International Committee of Red Cross is expected to take over the Dutch-built Jaffna Fort by Sunday [30 September], the 'DAILY NEWS' reports quoting authoritative sources. These sources said that the Tiger [LTTE—Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam] cadres had moved into the Jaffna Fort some hours after the fort was vacated by government troops on Wednesday morning.

A highly placed security official confirmed that the Tigers had moved into the fort hours after the evacuation. "Not only Tiger cadres but, the civilians too had been dragged into the fort by these criminals", he said. Asked what action the security authorities would take, the official said, "you expect us to bomb the fort which has civilians inside? This is what they want us to do to show the world that we kill innocent civilians. I do not wish to comment any further on the present situation in the fort".

A military source denied that there was any fighting between the troops and Tigers at the time the fort was evacuated. "These are Tiger canards to show the world that they are a mighty group", he said. He said, "We are a disciplined army. We could have booby trapped the area and even mined the fort before we evacuated. We do not believe in such low and dastardly tactics".

Meanwhile, the Defence Ministry in Colombo has received information from London that the Tigers in the London LTTE propaganda office were openly collecting funds to collect 70,000 pounds sterling to purchase a SAM (surface to air) missile. A high ranking airforce official said that the Tigers were openly doing this funds collection in London to purchase one SAM. "This proves that they still do not have such weapons", he said.

Reports reaching Colombo from Jaffna state that civilians held hostage by the Tigers have been brought to the areas surrounding the Jaffna Fort, Kachcheri [court] building and the Jaffna hospital to prevent the troops from attacking Tiger cadres. On Wednesday night, the Elephant Pass army detachment came under sporadic machine gun and mortar fire. No troop casualties were reported.

Muslims Deny Atrocities on Tamils, Ask Protection

BK2809005190 Hong Kong AFP in English 1636 GMT 27 Sep 90

Colombo, Sept 27 (AFP)—A Moslem party Thursday denied it was behind alleged atrocities committed against Tamil civilians by home guards protecting Moslem villagers in Sri Lanka's East. The Sri Lanka Moslem Congress (SLMC) said in a statement it totally denied allegations made by six Tamil parties that it was backing Moslem home guards accused of terrorising Tamil villagers in the East.

"This allegation is baseless, unfounded and designed to discredit the image of the SLMC and Moslem home guards," the statement said. "The SLMC has nothing to do with the Moslem home guards and the Moslem home guards take instructions not from the SLMC but from the government security officers."

Any move to disband the home guards or village security units would be "very detrimental to the security of the Moslems in the East," the statement said, calling instead for more home guard recruits to increase Moslems' security. The Tamil parties Monday said the Moslem home guards were carrying out a campaign of kidnapping, rape, robbery and murder in Tamil villages in the East and urged Colombo to disband them immediately.

The junior defence minister, Ranjan Wijeratne, said he would disband the Moslem home guard unit if there were any more alleged killings of Tamil civilians by them. Colombo armed and trained villagers from the majority Sinhalese and minority Moslem communities in the Northeast to protect their homes from attacks by Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) guerrillas.

Recruitment to the home guards was stepped up after the Sri Lankan Government blamed the Tigers for the August massacre of more than 200 Moslems in eastern Batticaloa district. But the Tigers, who on June 11 renewed their campaign for a separate Tamil state in the Northeast, denied the charge and said armed gangs let loose by the government had committed the crime.

The SLMC said the dismantling of the Moslem Home Guard unit would enable more massacres of Moslem civilians in the area. The Tamil parties, most of them former militant groups that have now renounced violence, have said the Moslem home guards shirked their duty to protect and instead attacked Tamil civilians. The parties claimed the Moslem home guards shot and hacked to death some 50 Tamil civilians from the Puthukkudiyiruppu Village in Batticaloa on September 21.

But the SLMC said: "The selection, training and control of the home guards are (carried out) by the government security officers and were never the responsibility of the SLMC" whose power base is in the country's East. It added that most Tamil parties had a record of innumerable "severe atrocities against the Moslem community" while Indian troops were in the island under a July 1987 bilateral accord.

Indian troops deployed to crush Tamil separatism in the Northeast withdrew from the island in March after fighting a bloody bush war with the Tigers. One third of Sri Lanka's Moslem community of one million live in the East, which is dominated by minority Tamils. Relations between Tamils and Moslems in the East have been strained since ethnic riots broke out between Sinhalese and Tamils in 1983.